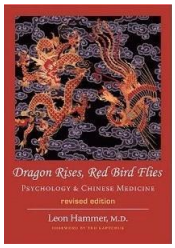


DRAGON RISES COLLEGE

OF ORIENTAL MEDICINE

ACADEMIC CATALOG

2026 – 2027



Dragon Rises College gets its name from Dr. Leon Hammer's book *Dragon Rises, Red Bird Flies*. The "dragon" is the symbol of force and power; He is the energy of the cosmos. The "red bird," or Phoenix, is the emerging soul arising from the ashes of immolation growing toward a oneness with God, the Tao, and All That Is. Consequently, the dragon is the power or life force, and the red bird the rhythm of the universe. Together they make up the energetic "evolution of a being."

Non-Discrimination Policy

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine is committed to providing equal opportunity in the admission and treatment of student and therefore prohibits the discrimination and/or harassment against applicants, students, faculty, or staff on the basis of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, handicap or disability, status as a veteran or any classification protected by local, state, or federal law. It is also the policy of the College to be in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which provides that "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity while receiving Federal financial assistance." Copies of the complete Harassment and Discrimination Policy (including Sexual Harassment) are included in student and faculty handbooks.

Confidentiality

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine operational procedures and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93- 380) as amended, prohibit the unauthorized release of confidential information about individual students. However, directory information is not considered to be confidential and may be published or otherwise released without consent. DRCOM has designated the following items as directory information: student name, telephone numbers, e-mail address, date and place of birth, major and minor fields of study, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, previous school attended, and photographs. Students may opt to have their directory information withheld. To exercise this option, the appropriate form requesting that certain information not be released must be obtained from the Administration, completed, and returned. Once filed, this form remains in effect until a request to withdraw the hold is submitted in writing by the student to the Administration. Be aware, however, that if you (the student) are seeking employment, the College cannot release your enrollment or degree status to anyone unless you rescind the order or come to the College and present a photo ID. For further information, contact Dragon Rises College Administration.

Reserved Rights of Dragon Rises College

Dragon Rises College reserves the right to make changes to all policies and procedures, schedules, fees, and other provisions in this catalog or in any of its publications or manuals at any time. These changes are subject to State and Federal laws and regulations, as well as accreditation requirements, and are made in order to improve effectiveness and educational quality. Changes that may materially affect all students and information concerning any changes will be posted on the student bulletin

board. Students must meet the requirements in the catalog currently at the time of their initial enrollment, along with any revisions to that catalog made by the College. Any student who interrupts their program of study (withdraws or is terminated) will be subjected to the tuition rates of the catalog in effect upon their return to academics. It is the responsibility of each faculty member and student to be aware of and understand the College's regulations and policies. The College disclaims any liability as a result of any printing error in this catalog.

Revised Date: February 2026

Welcome!

Welcome to Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine. This Catalog, together with the Student Handbook and Student Clinic Handbook, is your official information guide introducing you to the policies, procedures, and resources available to you as a student. Please read it carefully and keep it handy for reference. The Catalog, along with a Student Handbook, will be reviewed and discussed at Orientation by the Director of Student Services. You will receive clinic orientation separately as you prepare to enter the clinical phase of your education. Should you have any questions, you may request clarification from the Director or other members of Administration.

Our administrative staff is here to help ensure that your time at Dragon Rises College goes smoothly and you receive the education necessary to become a licensed practitioner of Oriental medicine. Please do not hesitate to ask questions and come to the staff to discuss any issues that may arise. The College has an open-door policy, and we consider excellent communication with students a top priority.

I look forward to meeting with each one of you to find out how you are doing and whether we can be of any assistance. I hope that the challenging and exciting path you have embarked upon will bring enrichment and fulfillment to you throughout your course of study and beyond.

Best wishes for success,



Dr. Dorian G. Kramer, DAOM
Executive Director

The information in this catalog is certified as true and correct in content and policy as required by 38 Code of Federal Regulations §21.4253

Table of Contents

Non-Discrimination Policy 1
Confidentiality 1
Reserved Rights of Dragon Rises College 1
Table of Contents 4
The College Vision 7
The College Mission 7
Educational Objectives 7
-Statement of Purpose 8
Contemporary Oriental Medicine 9
Accreditation and Licensure 10
DRCOM ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 12
Administration 13
Faculty 15
Clinical Supervisors 16
Academic Programs 17
Core Values 17
Integrity 17
Excellence 17
Compassion & Individualized Care 17
Clinical Wisdom 18
Collaboration and Integration 18
Cultural Humility and Inclusion 18
Leadership and Service 18
Program Learning Outcomes 18
PLO 1: Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis 18
PLO 2: Patient-Centered Treatment 18
PLO 3: Professional Practice 18
PLO 4: Interprofessional Communication and Integration 18
PLO 5: Critical Thinking and Evidence-Informed Practice 19
PLO 6: Leadership and Advancement of the Profession 19
Application and Admissions 21
Validity of Documentation 23
Reasonable Accommodations 23
Florida Residency Requirements 24
Non-Discrimination Policy 24
Transfer Students and Transfer of Credits 24
Time Frames for Program Completion 25
Financial Information 27
Additional Fees and Expenses 28

Fees Possible Under Specific Circumstances....28
Late Fees....29
Students with a Balance Due at the End of the Semester....29
Termination and Refund Policies....29
Refund Policy....30
Return to Federal Financial Aid....30
Suspension and Dismissal for Non-Payment....31
Student Information....32
Student Rights....32
Student Government....32
Orientation....32
Grading System....33
Satisfactory Academic Progress....34
Books, Supplies, and Equipment....35
Externship and Clinical Classes....35
The Nature of Acupuncture Programs....37
Student Services....37
Academic Counseling....37
Career Services....37
Student Clinic Treatments....38
Sexual Harassment Policy....38
Student Attendance Policy....38
Registration....39
STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES / ADA ACCOMMODATIONS....41
Student Complaints and Grievances....42
Student Code of Conduct....42
Physical Facilities and Equipment....43
Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking, Substance Use....43
Hybrid/Distance Education Program....44
Florida Residency Requirement for Hybrid Students....44
Enrollment Process for Online/Hybrid....45
Online/Hybrid Admissions Procedure....46
Attendance & Camera Usage....47
ATTENDANCE:....47
CAMERA POLICY....48
TECHNOLOGY....48
Student Orientation....49
Instructional Materials....50
Course Delivery and Content....50
Online Didactic Courses Delivery....50
In-Person Synchronous Course Delivery....50
Clinical Courses....51
Access to Instructional Materials, Grades, and the Test Process....51

Faculty Contact 52
Attendance 52
Learning Resources 52
The Curriculum 53
Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine 54
Herbology 55
Clinical Studies: Integrated Acupuncture, Oriental Medicine, and Herbs 55
Western Medicine 56
Business 56
Curriculum by Semester 57
Course Descriptions 60
ACADEMIC CALENDAR 80

The College Vision

To provide the leading standard of education through continual assessment of our curriculum and development of clinical and educational opportunities, producing students who are uniquely competitive in the field

The College Mission

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine is setting the standards of East Asian medicine through educating and inspiring the next generation of practitioners and leaders in their field, while creating pathways for integration into Western medicine to transform modern healthcare.

Educational Objectives

Upon completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

1. Demonstrate competency in the theories, principles, diagnostic methods, and clinical applications of East Asian medicine.

2. Apply the principles and diagnostic methods of Contemporary Oriental Medicine® to assess patients and develop individualized treatment strategies.

3. Provide safe, effective, ethical, and patient-centered care using acupuncture, herbal medicine, adjunctive therapies, patient education, and appropriate referral practices.

4. Employ critical thinking, clinical reasoning, research literacy, and evidence-informed decision-making in patient care.

5. Communicate and collaborate effectively with patients, faculty, clinical supervisors, and healthcare professionals across disciplines.

6. Exhibit professionalism, ethical responsibility, leadership, compassion, cultural responsiveness, and integrity in service to patients, communities, and the profession.

7. Promote health, wellness, prevention, and patient education through whole-person, inclusive, and patient-centered practices.

8. Demonstrate commitment to lifelong learning, professional growth, and the appropriate integration and recognition of East Asian medicine within the broader healthcare system.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Master of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (MAHM) program at Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine is to train practitioners of acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine to function as primary, independent healthcare providers across a variety of clinical settings. Through progressive didactic coursework, supervised clinical training, and community-based internships, the program prepares graduates for licensure, ethical practice, and lifelong engagement with the evolving healthcare system.

Contemporary Oriental Medicine

Dragon Rises College teaches **Contemporary Oriental Medicine**. We teach it because it works.

Contemporary Oriental Medicine (COM) is the natural evolution of the centuries-old system of diagnostic, therapeutic, and philosophical information called Chinese medicine. It has been revised and updated by considering the impact on the health of modern individuals caused by the increased pace of life, changing societal roles, and ever-increasing environmental toxicity. It also incorporates the confirming and clarifying knowledge provided by Western biomedicine.

Contemporary Oriental Medicine understands that genuine healing is a unified activity encompassing the physical, mental, and spiritual. Such healing, and the subsequent maintenance of good health, is achieved through a health management plan unique to each individual. We believe the role of the physician is to help people develop and then implement such a plan in order to manage their overall health—recognizing that treatment is only one part of an individual's health management regime.

The curriculum is based on the realization that the defining skill of the physician is the ability to diagnose accurately. Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis modernizes the principal diagnostic methods found in Chinese medicine and enables the physician to diagnose with accuracy and confidence. The execution and interpretation of the traditional practices have been updated with new or revised principles and insights following the lineage of Menghe and Ding, as transmitted by John H.F. Shen, OMD, and further developed by Leon Hammer, M.D. Dr. Hammer conceived both the modernized pulse system and the method of teaching used at Dragon Rises College.

Contemporary Oriental Medicine emphasizes a sophisticated pulse system that provides a clear standard of health and the ability to perceive the slightest deviation from that standard. This ability provides the physician with the opportunity to distinguish individuals from their disease. It also provides the foundation for preventive medicine at the earliest stages of disease. Fundamental to all that we teach is the understanding of the therapeutic relationship, and how individuals are shaped by lifestyle from the womb to the present.

The adherence of Dragon Rises College to the traditional Chinese emphasis on learning to diagnose successfully is unique among schools teaching Chinese medicine. The unique concentration on diagnosis is the foundation of our broad approach to healing and health maintenance.

Accreditation and Licensure

At its 17-19 August 2026 meeting, the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (ACAHM or Commission) conducted a comprehensive review, under applicable ACAHM accreditation standards, for continuing accreditation of Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine (DRCOM or Institution) and its Master of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine program. ACAHM imposed a Probation sanction on DRCOM and its program for a period of one (1) year.

Probation reflects the Commission's findings that DRCOM and its program fail to meet several of ACAHM's Standards and Criteria for Accreditation, including but not limited to legal and regulatory requirements for distance education and off-campus clinical training, governance structure, recruiting practices, and institutional financial stability. Probation is notice to DRCOM that, if it does not substantially correct the deficiencies noted by the Commission by the end of the probationary period, accreditation status will be withdrawn. The accredited status of the institution and program continues during the Probation period.

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine and its following program are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (ACAHM):

(1) Master of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine

The program listed above may offer courses via distance education.

ACAHM does not accredit any programs at the undergraduate/bachelor level.

Accreditation status and notes may be viewed via the ACAHM Directory.

ACAHM is recognized by the United States Department of Education as the specialized accreditation agency for institutions/programs preparing acupuncture practitioners. ACAHM is located at 500 Lake Street, Suite 204, Excelsior, Minnesota 55331; phone 952/212-2434; https://www.acahm.org

Public Disclosure Statement Effective as of 6 October 2026.

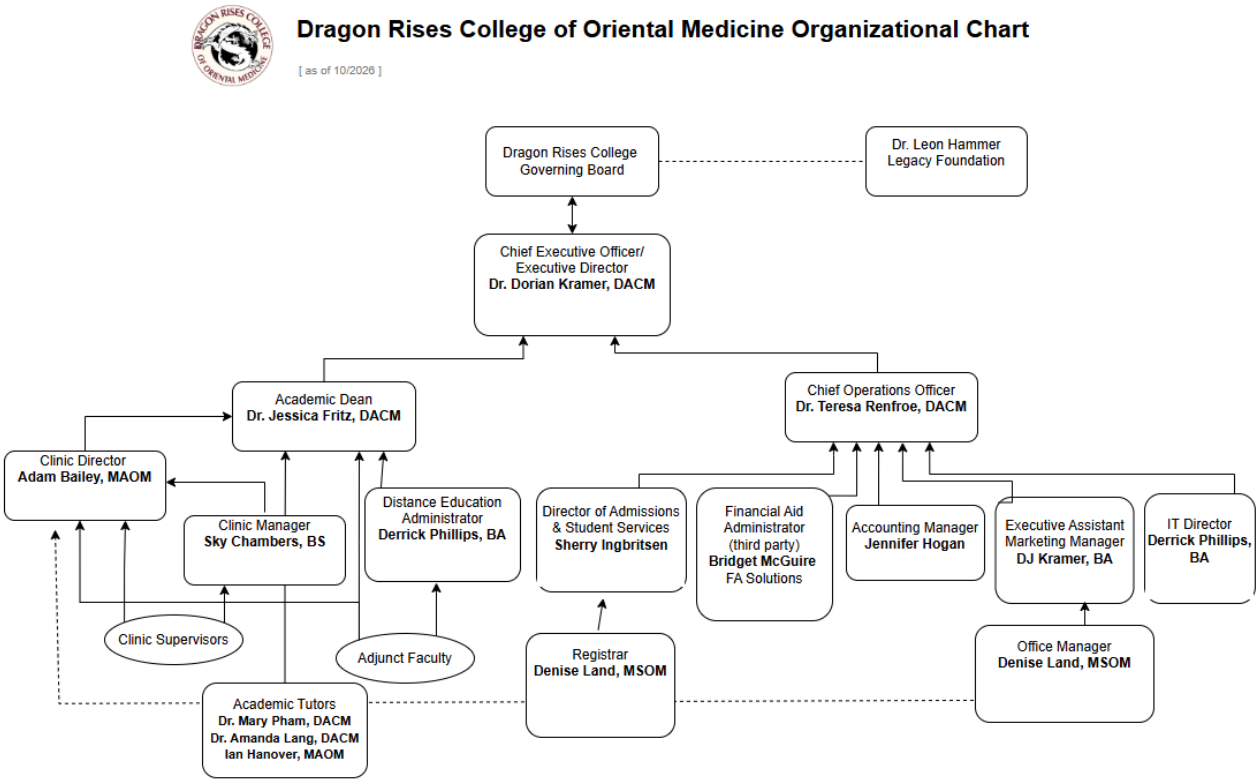
Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine is licensed by the Commission for Independent Education, Florida Department of Education. License #2425 (Gainesville) and License #12582 (Bradenton). Additional information regarding the institution may be obtained by contacting the Commission, 325 W. Gaines St., Suite 1414, Tallahassee, FL 32399, toll-free, 888-224-6684; or https://www.fldoe.org/policy/cie/contact-us.stml

After the completion of a minimum of 60 credits at the Baccalaureate level, the student will automatically enter the Masters level of the program. Upon satisfactory completion of the entire program, students will concurrently receive a Bachelor of Health Sciences and a Master of

Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine degree. They will be qualified to sit for the NCCAOM boards, and after passing, to apply for licensure. The requirements, process, fees, statutes, and rules can be accessed by students through the Florida State Licensure Regulations at the Florida Board of Acupuncture, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C-06, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3257 or by phone at (850) 488-0595. https://floridasacupuncture.gov/licensing

DRCOM ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

[as of 10/21/2026]



Administration

Dorian Kramer, DAOM, AP, **Executive Director** and faculty, is a Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine specializing in the treatment of psychiatric disorders. Dr. Kramer is trained in Traditional Chinese medicine, Classic Chinese Medicine, Japanese Meridian Acupuncture, The Hari system of acupuncture, Shaku Ju, Zheng Gu Tui-Na, Die Da medicine, and orthopedic needling under eminent teachers, including Peter Yates, Koei Kuwahara, Tom Bisio, and Dr. Frank Butler.

Jessica Fritz, DACM, AP, Academic Dean and faculty, is a nationally board-certified and Florida-licensed Acupuncture Physician and Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine. She holds a doctorate from Pacific College of Health and Science and a Master's from the Academy of Oriental Medicine at Austin (AOMA) Graduate School of Integrative Medicine. Her specialties include pediatrics, women's health, and internal medicine.

Teresa Renfroe, DACM, AP, Chief Operation Officer and faculty, is a licensed Acupuncture Physician in Sarasota, FL She holds a Doctorate degree from Pacific College of Health and Science, and a Master of Science in Oriental Medicine from East West College of Natural Medicine. She completed her internship at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China, and specializes in Chinese medical oncology and Neuro-Acupuncture. She previously worked with patients in the inpatient rehab and oncology unit at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

Adam Bailey, DOM, AP, Clinic Director, internship site coordinator, and faculty, obtained a Master's degree in Oriental Medicine from Dragon Rises College and has expertise in sports medicine, Shaolin Wahnam Qi Gong, and food fermentation.

DJ Kramer, BA, Executive Assistant and Marketing Director, is a graduate of Columbia University with a Bachelor's in American Studies. She has worked with many nonprofits in roles ranging from volunteer to Executive Director. Serving nonprofits from inception toward expansion, fulfilling a variety of community, healthcare, and educational needs, she has also provided marketing expertise to fulfill each organization's goals.

Sherry Ingbritsen, **Director of Admissions and Student Services**, attended Bauder College for Business Administration. She brings nearly thirty years of experience serving in both admissions and leadership roles in a variety of higher learning institutions. Sherry is excited to be part of Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine, and enjoys speaking with prospective students and helping them begin this new challenge in their lives.

Bridget McGuire, Financial Aid Administrator (FAA), ensures a quality, accurate financial aid solution, including processing and customer service. She works with the internal and external teams to determine and document efficient solutions. Previously, Bridget served as VP of Financial Aid at 3 large institutions for 20 years, managing the day-to-day financial processes for multi-site/state locations. Bridget had worked in financial aid since graduating from college. She is versed in a variety

of financial aid delivery systems, along with various funding sources and structures for awarding financial aid. Bridget holds a Master's degree in Enrolment Management from Capella University.

Derrick Phillips, BA, IT & Distance Education Coordinator supports and manages the technology behind the college's distance learning systems. He brings experience from non-profit and educational settings, including humanitarian work both in the U.S. and abroad. Derrick holds a Bachelor's degree in Non-Profit/Organizational Management and is completing a B.S. in Information Technology at Western Governors University. He also carries the Comp TIA Triad and ITIL 4 Foundation certifications and plans to continue his studies in WGU's MSITM program.

Denise Land, Registrar and Office Manager, oversees registration and the front office of the college, ensuring that students, faculty, and staff have sufficient support, including coordinating schedules, maintaining accurate records, and keeping the facilities operating efficiently.

Bobby Luffman, Clinic Manager, earned his Master of Science in Oriental Medicine from East West College of Natural Medicine and his Master of Sport Science in Sport Coaching from the United States Sports University. He is also a graduate of the Florida School of Massage.

Faculty

David Bibbey, MSOM, Dipl.Ac., LAc, graduated from the Florida College of Integrative Medicine in 2011. Mr. Bibbey is a longtime volunteer advocate for the acupuncture profession and is President Emeritus of the Florida State Oriental Medical Association (FSOMA). He has extensive experience teaching and consulting in the areas of health care practice and risk management, Florida acupuncture laws and rules, and HIPAA compliance.

Sean Carey, DC earned his Doctor of Chiropractic from Life University and has an integrative practice that follows a 23-year career as a chiropractor and clinical nutritionist, obtaining countless hours of post-graduate training in general nutrition, phytotherapy, functional endocrinology, digestive, and musculoskeletal health. His extensive experience in anatomy and physiology and is a licensed chiropractor in the state of Florida.

Joseph Clarke, MAOM, DAOM, **AP,** earned his Doctorate in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine from Emperor's College and has provided over 30,000 acupuncture treatments in his clinics in Santa Monica, CA, and Venice, FL. Joe holds four medical board certifications (CA, FL, NCCAOM, ABORM), has taught and supervised at three Colleges, and is also a Graduate of Goldman Sachs 10,000 small business program. He has collaborated in the development of nutraceutical formulas with two nationwide brands (Pure Health Research and Synvite) and has spoken at conferences on the differences in perspective and approaches to care between conventional and integrative medicine and how they might best complement each other.

Hayley Gardner Dipl., MSOM, AP, is the founder and clinical herbalist at Estuary Herbs, a Chinese herbal medicinary and Consultancy practice in central Florida. Her Chinese medicine journey began with a decade-long internship with master Shang Han Lun Physician, Dr. Ni Hai-Sha, at the Chinese Traditional Medicine Association. She received her Masters in Chinese Medicine at the Florida College of Integrative Medicine. Hayley participates in ongoing Classical herbal postgraduate studies with Dr. Arnaud Versluys of the Institute of Classics in East Asian Medicine, and holds a Diplomate of Canonical Chinese Medicine (DCCM) through this organization.

John Gorsuch, DACM, AP earned his Doctorate in Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine and specializes in clinical neuroscience with a focus on neuro-rehabilitation using electro-acupuncture with functional neurology. He is the only acupuncturist in the state of Florida to complete the post-graduate Clinical Neuroscience Program from the renowned Carrick Institute.

Shelby Havens, ADNP, PMHNP-BC, earned her Master's degree in Nursing from the University of Florida, in Gainesville, FL, in 1995. She continued her education, earning a Doctorate of Nursing Practice from the American Sentinel University in Denver, CO, in 2014. She has been a teacher for over 25 years at various colleges and is a Western medicine teacher at Dragon Rises.

Brian Lau, MSOM, AP, C.SMA earned a Master's in Oriental Medicine and Professional Health Sciences. He is a Licensed Massage Therapist, graduating from Bhakti Academe in Clearwater, FL. His emphasis has been on Sports Medicine Acupuncture, and has been teaching for 25 years.

Drew Peterson, DC, earned his Doctor of Chiropractic from the University of Western States Chiropractic University in 1980 and studied under Dr. Hai Sha Ni, where he graduated from the Han Tang School of Acupuncture in 2000. Dr. Peterson has extensive experience in physiology and biochemistry, working in professional and amateur athletics as well as advising for Hollywood productions, and is a Florida state-certified Marine Archeologist.

Galina V. Roofener, MSOM, AP, is NCCAOM board-certified and licensed in Ohio and Florida to practice Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Herbal Medicine. She has over 35 years of experience in health care, including 8 years as an acupuncturist and Chinese herbalist at the Cleveland Clinic. Work at the Cleveland Clinic has provided valuable insight into the internal audit process. Galina is a President Emeritus of the Florida State Oriental Medicine Association (FSOMA) and serves on the herbal committee at the American Society of Acupuncture (ASA).

Scott Shulz, DACM, AP, earned a Master's and a Doctorate in Chinese Medicine from Pacific College of Oriental Medicine. His undergraduate and graduate education was in the field of Biology from Southern and Western Illinois University. He has been in practice for over 10 years with a specialty in orthopedic acupuncture.

Christopher Whyrick, DACM, AP, earned his Masters degree in Oriental Medicine from Oregon College of Oriental Medicine in 2018. He continued his education, earning a Doctorate of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine from the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine in San Francisco, CA, in 2020. He is new to the Gainesville area, having recently moved from Santa Fe, NM, where he was a faculty member and Clinic Supervisor at Southwest Acupuncture College.

Other current faculty:

Dr. Maria Sgambati, MD	**Scotty Hudson MSOM, AP**	**Newton Gallant MAOM, AP**
Wyatt Jenkins MSOM, AP	**Cody Kost, DAOM, AP**	**Kye Peven, DSOM, ND, AP**
Hillary Talbott, DAHM, AP	**Teresa Biggs, MSOM, AP**	**Dominique Vonador, MSOM,AP**

Clinical Supervisors

Wyatt Jenkins MSOM, AP,	**Newton Gallant, MAOM, AP**
Danielle Saint-Cyr, DOM, LAc, AP	**John Gorsuch, DACM, AP**

Academic Programs

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine offers a concurrent **Bachelor of Health Science (BHS) and Master of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (MAHM)** degree program designed to prepare graduates for professional practice as acupuncture physicians. The five–academic-year, ten-semester program includes comprehensive didactic and clinical education delivered in accordance with the standards and competencies established by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (ACAHM) and the Commission for Independent Education (CIE).

The curriculum provides instruction in Contemporary East Asian Medicine, biomedicine, Chinese herbology, adjunctive and integrative therapies, acupoint injection therapy, and practice management. Clinical education is an essential component and includes structured phases of observation, supervised clinical training, and internship, allowing students to assume increasing responsibility for patient care under qualified supervision. The Bachelor of Health Science degree is awarded concurrently with the Master of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine upon successful completion of all academic, clinical competency, and clock-hour requirements.

Graduates of the BHS/MAHM program are eligible to sit for examinations administered by the National Certification Board for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (NCBAHM), successful completion of which is required prior to application for licensure. Licensure in the State of Florida is granted by the Florida Board of Acupuncture, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C-06, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3257, by telephone at (850) 488-0595, or online at http://floridasacupuncture.gov. The program is offered in both campus-based and synchronous hybrid distance education formats; both modalities share identical curricula, program length, clock hours, learning outcomes, and graduation requirements in compliance with ACAHM and CIE standards. Additional information on the hybrid distance education modality is provided in the Hybrid/Distance Education section of this catalog.

Core Values

Integrity
We uphold the highest standards of honesty, ethics, accountability, transparency, and professionalism in education, clinical training, patient care, and service.

Excellence
We pursue excellence in teaching, scholarship, clinical practice, professional development, and lifelong learning to advance the standards of East Asian medicine and healthcare.

Compassion & Individualized Care
We foster a culture of empathy, respect, kindness, and whole-person care that honors the dignity, individuality, and unique needs of every patient and member of our community.

Clinical Wisdom
We value strong diagnostic skills, clinical reasoning, reflective practice, and evidence-informed decision-making grounded in the traditions and principles of East Asian medicine.

Innovation
We embrace curiosity, critical thinking, and emerging knowledge to strengthen education, improve clinical care, and support the meaningful integration and advancement of East Asian medicine within modern healthcare.

Collaboration and Integration
We value teamwork, communication, interdisciplinary partnerships, and meaningful collaboration between East Asian medicine, contemporary biomedical sciences, and the broader healthcare systems to strengthen healthcare education, support integrative care, and improve patient outcomes.

Cultural Humility and Inclusion
We embrace diverse perspectives, cultures, identities, and traditions, fostering an environment of belonging, respect, equity, and inclusion for all members of our learning and healthcare community.

Leadership and Service
We inspire students and graduates to become ethical practitioners, educators, advocates, and leaders who serve patients, communities, the institution, and the profession with compassion and integrity.

Program Learning Outcomes

PLO 1: Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis
Graduates will perform comprehensive patient assessments and formulate accurate diagnoses using East Asian Medicine principles integrated with biomedical knowledge.

PLO 2: Patient-Centered Treatment
Graduates will develop, implement, and evaluate safe, effective, individualized treatment plans that promote patient health and well-being.

PLO 3: Professional Practice
Graduates will demonstrate ethical conduct, professionalism, cultural competence, and legal compliance in all aspects of patient care.

PLO 4: Interprofessional Communication and Integration

Graduates will communicate effectively with patients and healthcare professionals and collaborate within integrated healthcare environments to support optimal patient outcomes.

PLO 5: Critical Thinking and Evidence-Informed Practice

Graduates will apply critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and evidence-informed decision-making in patient assessment, treatment, and management.

PLO 6: Leadership and Advancement of the Profession

Graduates will demonstrate the professional, communication, advocacy, and lifelong learning skills necessary to advance and integrate East Asian Medicine within contemporary healthcare systems

DRCOM Governing Board

https://dragonrises.edu/the-college/governing-board/

David King, *Chair*
Lisa Pierce, *Vice Chair*
Pending, *Treasurer*
Joanna Myers, *Secretary*
Joseph Clarke, *Board Member*

DRCOM PAC Committee Members

Dr. Dorian Kramer, DACM, Lac...*(Executive Director DRCOM)*

Dr. Jessica Fritz, DACM, AP *(Academic Dean DRCOM)*

Sherry Ingbritsen *(Director of Admissions / Student Services DRCOM)*

Dr. Teresa Renfroe, DACM, AP *(Chief Operations Officer DRCOM)*

Prof. Adam Bailey, DOM, AP...*(Clinical Director DRCOM)*

Dr. Shan Liang, DOM, AP, MD (China) *(Center for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine)*

Dr. Robert Linde, RH, AP, DAOM *(Traditions School of Herbal Studies)*

Dr. Ellen Teeter, AP *(Executive Director FSOMA)*

Darrell Turner *(Business Owner: Turner Tree and Landscape)*

Briana Egger, AP *(Alumni DRCOM)*

Gabriella Rogers, AP *(Alumni DRCOM)*

dragonrises.edu/the-college/governing-board/

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine is a private, non-profit institution operated by Dragon Rises School of Oriental Medicine, LLC., owned by The Dr. Leon Hammer Legacy Foundation.

Application and Admissions

Admissions Requirements dragonrises.edu/prospective-students

Prospective students applying for admission must meet the following entrance requirements:

- Confirmed completion of sixty (60) semester/ninety (90) quarter credits at the Baccalaureate level from an accredited institution with a minimum 2.5 GPA.
    - Of these 60 credits, twenty (20) semester/thirty (30) quarter credits are required in general education courses and must include at least three (3) credit hours from each of the following four (4) categories: (a) English & Communication; (b) Science & Mathematics; (c) Social & Behavioral; (d) Humanities and Fine Arts. Biology and Chemistry are also strongly recommended.
- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age when they begin the program.
- Applicants must have a valid, permanent Florida address
- Submission to Dragon Rises College of a completed application, with an application fee of $50.
- Applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate English proficiency during the admissions interview or must achieve a minimum score of 500 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) paper version, 173 on the computerized TOEFL, or 61 on the Internet-based TOEFL.
- Transcripts originating in a foreign language must bear the official seal of the institution. They must be evaluated for educational equivalency in order to verify they meet Dragon Rises College's entrance requirements.
    - The most commonly used evaluation agencies are: World Education Services (wes.org); Academic Evaluation Service (academicevaluations.org); Josef Silney & Associates (jsilny.com).

  After completion of the remaining minimum 60 program credits at the Baccalaureate level, the student will automatically enter the Master's level of the program.

Admissions Criteria

The Admissions Committee will review the student applicant materials and will determine if the student displays the capacity to succeed in the program prior to arriving at a decision for acceptance of students based on the following criteria:

- Academic background and performance

- Strong motivation to learn acupuncture and herbology
- Commitment to healing as a profession
- Relevant life experience
- Financial planning
- Personal letters of recommendation

Admissions Procedure dragonrises.edu/prospective-students/apply-online/

A completed application packet, including all required forms as well as official transcripts from each college attended, along with a two-step interview process and, if applicable, an IT Orientation, is **due the last day of the previous semester for** the new semester that begins the following Tuesday. If a potential applicant reaches out to the college after that date, they will automatically be considered for the following semester. Applications can still be accepted and interviews still conducted; however, they will be for the next semester. This policy will be strictly adhered to.

New classes start three times per year: Spring, Summer, and Fall. Applications must be received by the last day of the previous semester to be considered for the upcoming semester. The applicant must submit the following to the Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine admissions office:

- A completed application, with a $50 application fee. This fee is non-refundable.
- A word-processed document containing relevant biographical data, basic philosophy of health care, and a statement relating how the applicant became interested in the field of acupuncture and natural health care.
- Two recent color photos.
- Copy of driver's license **and** social security card **or** passport.
- Proof of Florida residence (lease, utility bill, govt-issued ID).
- Resume or CV.
- Copy of any professional licenses held.
- A signed Applicant's Health Certification form [dragonrises.edu/certify].
- Technology Requirement Acknowledgement form.
- Two Personal Reference Forms [dragonrises.edu/LOR].

- Official transcripts from all academic institutions previously attended, sent directly to the College.
    - Foreign transcript documents written in a language other than English must include the original, a notarized English translation, and an evaluation by the credential evaluation service, sent directly to the college.

A representative of Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine (DRCOM) will schedule personal interviews with the College Admissions Director and the Academic Dean at a mutually convenient time. In the case of extreme distance or inability to attend in person, a virtual interview may be arranged. Once a student is accepted by DRCOM, the institution will schedule an on-campus enrollment appointment. During this appointment, the admissions staff will guide the enrollee through the enrollment paperwork and ensure that the student has a complete understanding of the academic programs, the program costs, program timelines, and the method of delivery.

The institution will collect the $75 enrollment fee at this time. DRCOM will present an enrollment agreement to the student to ensure that the student understands the program and the costs prior to signing the enrollment agreement and other required paperwork. A tuition deposit is scheduled upon completion of the enrollment agreement, and the student reviews the withdrawal and tuition refund policies, indicating that a deposit is refundable if the enrollee notifies the college in writing within five business days of signing the agreement of his/her intention to withdraw.

Validity of Documentation

If Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine (DRCOM) has any reason to believe a student's diploma or transcript is not valid or was not obtained from an entity that provides secondary or post-secondary education (as applicable), it will take additional steps to determine the validity of the document. DRCOM may contact the granting institution or confirm with the relevant state agency to determine the validity of the document. If DRCOM has reason to believe a Title IV applicant is committing fraud, the U.S. The Department of Education's Office of the Inspector General will be notified.

Reasonable Accommodations

It is the policy of DRCOM to document and verify student eligibility for reasonable accommodations and academic adjustments on the basis of a learning disability. Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine will try to make every reasonable accommodation for students, where legally and reasonably allowed. All accommodation requests are handled on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Director, Academic Dean, and Clinic Director. English proficiency is required for admission and is not subject to accommodations.

Florida Residency Requirements

All students of DRCOM must maintain a continued Florida residency for the duration of the program. The student applicant must provide proof of residency from the acceptable Florida state forms of ID (Drivers License, Utility bill, lease agreement, etc).

Non-Discrimination Policy

DRCOM encourages applications from qualified applicants of both sexes from all cultural, racial, religious, and ethnic groups. The college is committed to nondiscrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, political affiliations or opinions, and veteran status in admissions, educational policies, financial aid, and employment or in any program or activity.

Transfer Students and Transfer of Credits

Transfer students and non-transfer students are accepted and admitted on the same basis. Transfer students must complete the Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine's (DRCOM) application process. The Academic Dean will analyze the transcripts submitted by the student and fill out the Transfer of Credit Form, which the student will sign.

Transfer credit is granted at the sole discretion of the Academic Dean. It is the responsibility of the student to provide necessary documentation, such as the catalog course description, syllabi, and any other documents the Academic Dean may request. No partial credit can be given. Chinese medicine coursework and clinical hours may be transferred from an ACAHM-accredited or candidate college. Western medicine coursework may be transferred from a college that holds regional accreditation from an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The student may be required to take the final exam for the transfer credit being requested. All transfer credits must be requested at enrollment and granted by the end of the first year.

At least 50% Didactic and 25% Clinical of the DRCOM program must be attempted and completed at DRCOM by all matriculated students. This is required for graduation and the granting of a degree, and all Dragon Rises College program requirements must be met.

DRCOM neither implies nor guarantees that credits earned while enrolled will be accepted by other institutions. Each college has policies that govern the acceptance of credit from other institutions. Students seeking to transfer credits earned at DRCOM to other postsecondary institutions should contact the college or university to which they seek admission to inquire as to that institution's policies on credit transfer and acceptance.

All transcripts submitted must be official and translated into English if necessary. One official transcript is required from each college attended, including international evaluations. If a student is looking for transfers, the request MUST be completed prior to the first semester when the official transcripts are handed in. If a transfer has not been noted by that point, the student will NOT receive additional transfers.

Time Frames for Program Completion

Students must complete the program requirements within the defined maximum time frames as per DRCOM policy for time frames for program completion. All students are expected to be full-time unless other written arrangements have been approved by the Academic Dean and signed off on by the Director. Any student not registered for courses or who is otherwise absent from classes for more than one semester without approval must apply for readmission and follow the stated admission policy. In accepting a student for enrollment, Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine (DRCOM) assumes that the student's education will be continuous. In the event the student elects not to attend a semester, DRCOM will not be responsible if certain classes are not available to the student upon his/her return. Students who begin the program at DRCOM graduate in a minimum of 40 months. The entire 10-semester program must be completed within a maximum of 15 attempted semesters. Students who begin the program at DRCOM graduate in a minimum of 40 months. The entire 10-semester program must be completed within a maximum of 15 attempted semesters, regardless of enrollment status (part-time or full-time). Students must complete the program within six (6) years from the first day of enrollment in the program.

Graduation Requirements

To ensure that students have met all requirements necessary for graduation, an exit interview is completed, and a one-time fee of $130 is collected once a student reaches the 10th Semester. A graduation ceremony will be held at the end of each semester, in which degrees will be granted, with a reception in honor of the graduates.

To graduate from the college, a student must have:

- Completed and passed all required courses with a grade of 70% (C) or higher.
- Completed all clinic internship requirements and turned in all related paperwork to a Clinic Supervisor or Clinic Administrator.
- Attended Dragon Rises College for at least 50% Didactic and 25% Clinical of the program.
- Financial Aid students must complete Exit Counseling prior to graduation.
- Paid in full all tuition and fees.
- Returned all borrowed library materials and security cards.
- Completed an Exit Interview with the Student Services Director

Student Records

DRCOM will retain all student admission, financial, academic, and clinical records within its Learning Management System (LMS) and designated student information systems for the lifetime of the institution or until such records are transferred to an appropriate successor institution, regulatory agency, accrediting body, or records custodian in accordance with applicable federal and state laws, accreditation requirements, and institutional policies. Records

will be maintained in a secure manner that protects student privacy and confidentiality, with access limited to authorized personnel. In the event of institutional closure, DRCOM will make reasonable efforts to ensure the preservation and accessibility of student records through transfer to an approved repository or custodian as required by law and accrediting standards.

Students may access their records within the LMS system or by contacting the Registrar. Students requiring copies of Official Transcripts are required to fill out a Transcript Request Form and submit it to the Registrar.

Financial Information

Financial Aid dragnrises.edu/prospective-students/tuition-financial-aid/

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine (DRCOM) participates in the Title IV Federal Direct Stafford Loan program for undergraduate and graduate studies. Students may apply for Stafford Loans by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid online at https://studentaid.gov Other options available in addition to any approved federal financial aid include: deferred tuition payment plans, credit-based education loans called Graduate PLUS Loans, the Florida Prepaid College Plan, Florida Bright Futures Scholarships for previously approved students, Florida Student Assistance Grants, Scholarships for Children/Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans, and Veterans Administration educational benefits for those who qualify. Contact the Financial Aid Director for further information.

Tuition and Fees dragonrises.edu/prospective-students/tuition-financial-aid/tuition/

Effective Fall semester 2025 (September 2, 2025), tuition will be $7500 per semester for students enrolled full-time. For part-time students enrolled in 8.99 credit hours or less, the tuition is $4500 (60% of full-time) tuition per semester. Tuition and fees for campus-based or online/hybrid courses are the same, including an additional $250 per semester Technology Fee for all students, regardless of full- or part-time status. Tuition increases may occur annually, and the second and subsequent years may include a tuition increase; students will be notified of any tuition increases in a timely fashion. Total tuition increases may also occur if the student falls behind, is required to take additional classes, or if additional hours are approved by regulatory agencies.

Tuition costs include the cost of course learning materials (including textbooks), uniforms, student ID, laboratory supplies, and student acupuncture kits used in the classroom. Learning resources and or learning materials are supplied by DRCOM and may be in the form of hard copy textbooks, e-books (digital), or other electronic documents or activities on the Learning Management System. Clinic acupuncture supplies (needles, moxa, salves, etc.) are not included in tuition, as selection and use of these types of items depend on student preference.

Payment is due for each semester during the designated registration period. Any other financial arrangements will need to be approved by the Executive Director. Students withdrawing from the program will be liable for the full cost of the last semester attended past the drop period. They will not be liable for the remainder of the program after withdrawal.

No tuition adjustments will be made for transfer credit(s), but if transfer credits are granted, the student will not be required to take those classes. Additional program fees total $3,055.00. See the fee breakdown below for more information. The Full Cost of Attendance is $78,055.

Additional Fees and Expenses

FEE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Application Fee	$50	With initial application, nonrefundable
Enrollment Fee	$75	One-time enrollment fee, nonrefundable after five days
Annual HIPAA/OSHA Training	$50	Per year, paid in Fall Semester
Student Government Fee	$45	Per semester, for all students
Technology Fee	$250	Per semester, for all students
Graduation Fee	$130	One-time fee, 9th semester for 10th semester graduation
Textbooks	$0	Included with tuition
Scrubs (uniform)	$0	Included with tuition
Student Classroom Acupuncture Kit	$0	Included with tuition

Fees Possible Under Specific Circumstances

FEE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Returned check fee	$35	Fee for checks which are not processed by the bank
Clinic Acupuncture Supplies	$100	Costs vary based on student selection/preference, not required
Security card replacement	$25	Fee for issuing a replacement campus security card
Additional clinic hours	$50	Per hour, see page 7 of Student Clinic Handbook
DE Weekend Make-up Sessions	$200 / class	Applicable to Hybrid students only, after one excused absence
Make-up quizzes / exams	$35 / $50	Per exam or quiz if student misses original quiz / exam
Course Audit Fee	$200	Per credit hour *(This does not apply to currently registered students, enrolled in a degree-seeking Program. This fee is only assessed for non-registered students. There is no credit earned for audited courses.)*
Official Transcript fee	$15	Per requested copy (for 4th request, 3 free at no charge)

VA Students dragonrises.edu/prospective-students/tuition-financial-aid/veterans/

In accordance with Title 38 US Code 3679 subsection (e), Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine adopts the following additional provisions for any students using U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Post 9/11 G.I. Bill® (Ch. 33), Veteran Readiness & Employment (Ch. 31), Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (Ch. 35), or Montgomery G.I. Bill® – Selected Reserve (Ch. 1606) benefits, while payment to the institution is pending from the VA. For up to 90 days following certification of the student's enrollment to VA, this school will not:

- Prevent the student's enrollment;
- Assess a late penalty fee to the student;
- Require the student to secure alternative or additional funding;

- Deny the student access to any resources (access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities) available to other students who have satisfied their tuition and fees owed to the institution.

However, to qualify for this provision, such students may be required to:

- Produce the VA Certificate of Eligibility (COE) by the first day of class. A COE may also include a Statement of Benefits obtained from the VA website or eBenefits, or an electronic authorization (VA Form 28-1905) from VR&E;
- Provide a written request to be certified;
- Provide additional information needed to properly certify the enrollment as described in other institutional policies.

Late Fees

Annual or semester payment fees must be provided no later than the final add/drop period. Payments more than 7 days overdue will incur a late fee of $50. Fees more than 30 days overdue will be charged an additional $50, and an additional $50 for every 10 days past due unless other arrangements have been made. Having fees 60 days or more overdue is grounds for dismissal from the Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine.

Students with a Balance Due at the End of the Semester

Students with a balance due will not be entitled to receive transcripts from Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine or to have any transcripts issued on their behalf to any organization. They will not be permitted to attend the next semester until the due balance is paid in full, unless other arrangements have been made.

Termination and Refund Policies

Students wishing to terminate enrollment at any time must advise the Executive Director in writing (email is permissible). The termination date will be the date of the notice or the date it is submitted to the administration. Students must meet with the Academic Dean for an academic exit interview. If the student was receiving Federal Student Loans, they must meet with the Financial Aid Director for a financial aid exit interview. In calculating the refund due to a student, the last date of actual attendance by the student is used in the calculation unless an earlier written notice is received. Refunds shall be made within 30 days of the date that the institution determines that the student has withdrawn. All textbooks &/or supplies must be returned to the college for the semester in which the student withdraws.

Refund Policy

Students who wish to withdraw from Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine must provide written notice of their intention to withdraw. The effective date of withdrawal is the postmarked date of the written notice or the date the notice is delivered or emailed to the Director.

Once instruction has begun, a student who withdraws from the program may be eligible for an institutional tuition refund as follows:

- During the first week of the semester (Drop/Add period): Tuition and fees will be refunded, less the non-refundable application/enrollment fee, which will not exceed $150.
- After the Drop/Add period and through the end of the fourth (4th) week of classes: The student will receive a refund of 25% of the total tuition paid, provided written notice of withdrawal is submitted to the College.
- After the fourth (4th) week of classes: No institutional refund of tuition or fees will be provided, and the student is responsible for the full tuition and applicable fees for the semester.

All materials, supplies, and fees are non-refundable. Textbooks purchased through the College may be returned in good condition within 20 days of withdrawal in accordance with College policy.

Any institutional refund due will be made within 30 days of the date the College determines that the student has withdrawn and is eligible for a refund.

Students withdrawing from a single course while remaining enrolled at the College are not eligible for a tuition refund for that course.

Students who receive Federal Student Aid are also subject to the Return to Federal Financial Aid requirements described below.

Return to Federal Financial Aid

For Federal Financial Aid borrowers, withdrawal from classes will result in a refund to the Department of Education of aid proportional to the enrollment period attended up to 60 percent. After 60 percent, there will be no refund. The refund calculation is based on the last day of actual classroom or clinic attendance following the written termination request. All books, materials, and supplies are nonrefundable, with the exception of textbooks purchased through the college and returned in new condition within 20 days of withdrawal. Students are expected to complete the enrollment period for which the aid was paid; otherwise, they will not be entitled to keep the entire disbursement. Regulations governing Federal Financial Aid Loans require schools to refund all unearned tuition, fees, and returned textbooks to the student's lender rather than the student, and the student is required to return to the lender the calculated portion of the disbursement he or she received. Any remaining funds outside of federal financial aid will revert to the institutional refund policy as noted above.

Suspension and Dismissal for Non-Payment

A student may be dismissed at any time from the program for non-payment of tuition. Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine reserves the right to initiate financial dismissal, with prior notice, to any student who does not meet his/her financial obligations to the college. A student is entitled to appeal the notice of pending financial dismissal within 10 days of receipt of the notice. The appeal must be in writing and sent by certified mail to the Executive Director and include a description of the dispute along with any documentation pertinent to the issue. Reinstatement will be based upon demonstrated ability to meet the stated financial requirements of DRCOM. Any student reinstated after a financial dismissal is subject to a $250 reinstatement fee. Any subsequent inability to meet the financial obligations will result in permanent dismissal. Students considering a leave of absence or withdrawal from the program must speak with the Director before leaving in order to arrange payment of any outstanding balance.

Student Information

Student Rights

A student's basic rights include, but are not limited to:

- A formalized syllabus and curriculum
- Impartial and fair standards of assessment
- A suitably equipped environment conducive to hearing and receiving knowledge and guidance
- A supportive administrative infrastructure
- A detailed list of student rights and responsibilities is provided on page 8 of the Student Handbook

Student Government

Students participate in a Student Government Association with officers and bylaws. These bylaws, drawn up by students and approved by administration, define the relationship between the students and Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine, ensuring proper avenues for open communication and resolution of problems. Members of the faculty or administration will participate when invited.

Orientation

New students attend an initial orientation prior to the first day of class. At orientation, the DRCOM academic and administrative policies are reviewed. In addition, students will receive a separate individual IT orientation prior to the first day of class. Students receive initial or updated catalogs and handbooks via Populi. Students must bring a fully charged laptop to orientation for this training. Clinic orientation is held prior to entering the clinic, covering clinic policies and methods, and OSHA and HIPAA regulations.



Grading System

Student progress is assessed by regular examinations given throughout the program. The grade received on any written or practical examination, as well as for a course grade, will be determined on the conventional scale, which follows:

GRADE	POINTS	PERCENT
A (Excellent)	4	90-100
B (Above Average)	3	80-89.99
C (Average)	2	70-79.99
D (Below Average)	1	60-69.99
F (Failure)	0	<69.99
P (Pass)	AUD (Audit)	
I (Incomplete)	W (Withdrawal)	

Grade Reports are available to students at the end of every semester via the Populi SIS/LMS system and include the semester GPA. Didactic course grades are based upon performance on written and practical examinations, papers, projects, student participation, and attendance. Clinical course grades are based upon completion of clinical hours, supervisor evaluations, patient evaluations, and demonstration of proficiency in relevant clinical skills. If behind in hours, students may appeal for permission from the Academic Dean to extend their clinical time for 30 calendar days from the beginning of the next semester. They may not move on to the next clinical course until the previous course is satisfactorily completed. A student failing to complete the course in this time frame must retake the clinical course.

If a student receives a failing grade in a course, the "F" will remain on the transcript as part of the permanent record, even if the student subsequently retakes the course. Academic credit will not be given for a failed course, but the grade will be used in calculating the GPA. All failed courses must be repeated and successfully completed in order to graduate. A grade of "F" will be issued for any class that the student stops attending but does not officially withdraw.

A grade of "W" will be issued for any class dropped after the second week of class and before the midterm. The grade remains on the transcript as part of the permanent record, despite subsequent retakes and successful completion of the course. Academic credit is not awarded for a grade of "W," nor is the grade used in calculating the cumulative GPA. All requests for withdrawal from a course must be submitted to the Academic Dean in writing via email..

A grade of Incomplete, or "I", is not used in calculating the cumulative GPA. The student should have satisfactorily completed 70 percent of the coursework for the semester, but be unable to complete the remaining work due to extenuating circumstances. For an "I" to be awarded, a contract, signed by the student and faculty member, and approved by the Academic Dean, must

be on file. A grade of "I" may be given if the student has not completed all work required for the course, has missed more than the allowed number of class sessions, or has failed but is eligible to retake the final exam for the course. It is not a substitute for an "F," and no student may be failing a course at the time an "I" grade is issued

Academic credit is not awarded until a permanent grade for the course is recorded. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Academic Dean to make arrangements to complete the coursework necessary to convert the Incomplete to a passing grade. Incomplete didactic course grades must be converted to a letter grade within the first two weeks of the next semester, or they will automatically be converted to an "F." If extenuating circumstances exist, individual students may be given additional time to complete the coursework at the discretion of the Academic Dean. Incomplete clinic course hours must be completed within the first 30 days of the next semester, or the student must pay to retake the course. The Academic Dean must approve all extensions of time to complete clinic hours.

AUD will be given to a student who is auditing. No course credit is given. Students granted transfer credit for a course are welcome to audit the course at no charge.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Progress will be evaluated each semester. For Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), students must:

- Maintain a minimum grade of at least 70% in each course (2.0/C).
- Pass all comprehensive and practical exams.
- Resolve all incomplete grades and critical input from Patient Satisfaction Surveys.
- Maintain a satisfactory attendance record. Absences should only be used for illness or emergencies (maximum of 20% of class hours). See the Attendance Policy details on page 19.
- Move through the program at a pace leading to completion within the specified time.

A student who fails to meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress guidelines will be placed on academic probation by the Academic Dean and notified in writing if:

- A student fails to meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress guidelines.
- A student whose cumulative grade-point average falls below 2.0 but remains above 1.5, or who does not earn at least a 2.0 GPA in any one semester. Students will have one semester in which to raise their semester and cumulative average to 2.0 or better.

- Incidents of unprofessional behavior may result in the student being placed on probation.

Students who receive student loans and fail to achieve Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) are placed automatically on ***Financial Aid Warning***. A student on financial aid warning may continue to receive loans for one payment period despite a determination that the student is not meeting SAP standards. The student will receive the Academic Probation notice, which can be appealed. Contact the Financial Aid office for details and the form to use.

A student who does not clear probation by the end of the one-semester probationary period will be placed on academic suspension. Students on academic suspension do not qualify for and will not receive Title IV funds, unless appealed. Suspension may cause a student to wait a full year for the appropriate semester courses to be offered again.

Books, Supplies, and Equipment

- Book lists are provided on the syllabus of each class and will be available to students at the beginning of each semester. All required textbooks are provided with the tuition payment. Recommended textbooks are not included. However, students may order recommended textbooks from the college or purchase them on their own.
- Students are required to purchase needles and other clinic supplies prior to starting their internship in the Clinic in the 6th semester.
- A reliable laptop computer or tablet with email is required. Computers are not included in the cost of tuition.
- A stethoscope, blood pressure cuff, and thermometer are required in Western medical courses. The cost for these items is not included in tuition.
- Students must wear a uniform consisting of solid colored scrubs with a Dragon Rises patch affixed on the upper left chest while attending classes, clinic, and internships. Two sets of scrubs will be provided upon entering the program, and the student submitting an order on the College's website [dragonrises.edu/scrubs].

Externship and Clinical Classes

Participation in an externship and/or clinical courses is the capstone event in the DRCOM curriculum. Permission to attend an externship or clinical rotation is at the discretion of DRCOM, and students must meet eligibility requirements. Eligibility for externships includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following criteria: a) students must be recommended by the faculty; b) students must be current with all payments to the college; c) students must meet physical requirements for the site, if any; d) students must show proof of liability insurance if the site

requires it; e) student will need to meet all requirements as outlined by the externship site, up to and including a health physical, immunizations indicating that they are up to date on all immunizations and are in good health, and submit a Hepatitis B immunization waiver or proof of immunization if the site requires it; and f) the student must attend a mandatory pre-externship/pre-clinical rotation orientation offered by DRCOM.

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine reserves the right to deny access to or withdraw students from externship courses at its sole discretion. Students that DRCOM deems unsuitable, who lack character, who have a poor disciplinary record, or who are academically or emotionally unprepared will not be scheduled for externship classes, or if present in an externship course, will be administratively withdrawn from the course(s).

The Nature of Acupuncture Programs



Learning East Asian Medicine involves experiential, hands-on instruction that requires close interaction among students in certain courses. Students practice locating acupuncture points and assessing pulses on one another in a supervised clinical and/or classroom environment, which may require limited removal of clothing as appropriate for clinical training. Hands-on coursework includes but is not limited to meridian studies, pulse diagnosis, therapeutic needling techniques, East Asian bodywork, and Qi Gong.

Student Services

On a limited basis, the Director of Student Services and the Executive Director are available to assist students with out-of-classroom issues. The goal of staff is to assist students in being successful in their studies and making life on campus harmonious. This counseling may include personal or administrative issues.

Academic Counseling

The academic counseling program is preventive in nature. The Academic Dean reviews each student's current grade status, any problem areas noted by the course instructors, completion of semester requirements, attendance, and status of make-up tests at the end of each term. If needed, an individual counseling session will be arranged by the Academic Dean. In addition, students with academic concerns may seek a meeting with the Academic Dean for advice or guidance.

Career Services

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine sends graduates an email listing of positions and career opportunities for acupuncturists and acupuncture educators, as these opportunities become available. The Director of Student Services forwards announcements and opportunities, including outreach events, to all alumni and graduating seniors in the relevant geographic area. Although DRCOM does not have a formal placement assistance program and makes no guarantee of placement or employment to its students or graduates, we will assist each graduate to the best of our ability. Most graduates go into private practice, individually or as part of a professional group.

The healthcare community is recognizing East Asian medicine as an effective healthcare modality and more opportunities are opening up to become part of established medical practices. Alumni

of DRCOM have access to employment opportunities, advice from the Director of Student Services and the experience of other alumni.

Student Clinic Treatments

Students receive discounted treatment in the student clinic:

- To be seen in the clinic, a student must make an appointment with a student practitioner *(informal treatments are not allowed)*.
- Raw herb prescriptions will be filled at the student clinic dispensary and charged accordingly. Some patent formulas are also available by prescription.

Sexual Harassment Policy

It is the policy of Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine that sexual harassment will not be tolerated. All administrators, faculty, employees, and students are charged with the responsibility for conducting themselves appropriately and professionally and for refraining from all behaviors that infringe on the rights of others. Anyone who engages in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate termination or expulsion. DRCOM policy also prohibits any member of the faculty or staff from establishing and/or maintaining a social or intimate personal relationship with a student.

Student Attendance Policy

Students are required to attend all scheduled class meetings and demonstrate competency in the material presented for each course. In case of an immediate emergency, students may miss up to 20% of a course without penalty. In the event a student misses more than 20% of the course hours, usually three (3) classes, the student is only eligible to earn a maximum of 79% (C/2.5) for the course's final semester grade. Five (5) absences are a failure and will require the course to be repeated in a subsequent semester, unless arrangements have been made with the Academic Dean and/or Executive Director. Video archive reviews are ***not acceptable*** substitutes for synchronous class attendance, and will still count as a marked ***absence***.

Tardiness, defined as arriving 20 or more minutes late to a class session, or departing class 20 or more minutes early, will be recorded; two tardy marks count as one (1) absence, which will count toward the 20% policy mentioned prior.

Students must attend all clinic hours for which they are registered. Chronic tardiness or leaving early will be reported to the Academic Dean. Students must make up the work they missed due to absences.

Hybrid/Distance Education students are also required to be in person on the Bradenton campus one weekend every month or as scheduled for mandatory hands-on curriculum and clinical practice. Clinical externships require in-person, on-campus attendance for the final year of the Program (final three semesters), without exception, in accordance with our accreditation standards. No remote visual or out-of-state learning can supplement these clinical hours.

Registration

Students are registered for the forthcoming semester before the end of the current semester in which they are enrolled. Students digitally sign the Registration/Enrollment form on Populi and will receive a digital invoice (also in Populi).

Students who register for classes for 9 or fewer credit hours are considered part-time. A minimum of 6 credit hours is required to receive financial aid under part-time status. More than nine (9) credit hours is considered full-time status within the program.

Residency

All students of Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine must maintain a continued Florida Residency for the duration of the program. The student applicant must have their personal residence in the state of Florida or a verifiable family address where the student can receive mail. (Note: this excludes non-familial friends, non-married partners, short-term rentals, and commercial properties.)

Dragon Rises College trains our graduates to the highest standards in Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine with adherence to applicable Florida state laws and in preparation for NCCAOM Board certification. The college makes no guarantees of preparedness for any Board Certifications in any additional states.

Children On Campus

It is Dragon Rises policy that minors are generally not permitted on campus, in clinic or classroom spaces (unless as a patient in authorized areas). Our insurance currently prohibits minors and guests from the classroom setting, as it presents potential hazards. Minors' presence in the classroom also creates a distraction that hampers the learning environment for students and faculty.

A standing exception to this policy has been developed for current student-mothers of children who are still breastfeeding and to account for childcare emergencies. A caregiver is required to be on-site and available for the infant or child, and is permitted to use a nearby common area while the student-mother is attending class. Ample breaks and time away will be permitted, as deemed suitable by the Instructor, to allow for feeding times. Neither the infant, child, nor the

caregiver is permitted in the classroom or clinical setting unless permission is granted by the Director, and for a limited-scope, specific purpose.

Pets on Campus

Pets in general are not permitted on campus, in the clinic, or in the classrooms. This is inclusive of all breeds of animal, including "emotional support pets". If you have a verified and licensed "service animal" (a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability), that is required for seeing or another noted physical challenge, the "service animal" can be permitted in the lobby and classroom only. The service animal must be fully trained, housebroken, and in a service vest or collar. The service animal will not be permitted in the breakroom areas or on the 2nd floor, as that is a restricted area due to being a sanitary and sterile area (clinic / herbal lab).

An exception can be made to the 2nd floor ruling (in certain circumstances). If the service animal can safely and quietly be crated, they can be placed in the open area where the administrative offices are (or, if available at the time, with permission, in one of the admin offices) while the student is in the clinic. This is the only area on the 2nd floor where the service animal can be housed. If this becomes an issue at any time, the student will not be able to have the "service animal" on the 2nd floor in the future.

The person needing the "service animal" may only be asked two questions:

1: Is the animal a licensed service animal due to a disability?

2: What task does it perform?

We cannot ask additional questions or ask for documentation or proof, but if the person cannot respond to these two questions, access to campus will be denied.

The staff may not ask what the person's disability is or what they require with the disability, unless within the context of the clinician treating them for a medical need.

The specific definition of a "Service Animal" is: Under the ADA, a service animal is defined as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability. The dog must be trained to take a specific action when needed to assist the person with a disability.

The specific definition of an ESA (Emotional Support Animal) is: Emotional support animals provide companionship, relieve loneliness, and sometimes help with depression, anxiety, and certain phobias, but do not have special training to perform tasks that assist people with disabilities. Emotional support animals are not limited to dogs. While these types of animals receive extensive training and may interact with all sorts of people, including an individual with a disability, **they are not trained to perform a specific task for an individual with a disability**. It does not matter if a person has a note from a doctor stating that the person has a

disability and needs to have the animal for emotional support. A doctor's letter does not turn an animal into a service animal

The Key Difference is that individuals with a disability may use and interact with working animals for a variety of reasons. But only dogs who have received specialized training to perform a specific task or tasks for an individual with a disability are considered service animals. This is the key difference between a service animal and all other types of working animals, including therapy, comfort animals, and emotional support animals.

This information is provided by the ADA, HUD, and ASPR.gov.

STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES / ADA ACCOMMODATIONS

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine is committed to making its programs accessible to qualified students with disabilities and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission, retention, or any aspect of its programs and services. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the college will provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities, unless doing so would fundamentally alter the nature of the program or create an undue financial or administrative burden.

Students requesting accommodations must submit current documentation from a qualified medical or licensed professional to the Academic Dean/Campus Director for review. Documentation should generally be no more than five years old, though this requirement may be waived for permanent conditions such as vision or hearing impairment. Requests are typically reviewed within 7 to 10 business days.

Reasonable accommodations may include extended time on exams, reduced-distraction testing spaces, note-taking assistance, alternative textbook formats, adjusted course load, and auxiliary aids or services for students with hearing or vision impairment. Because the program requires students to safely and accurately place needles during clinical training, the college is not able to accommodate students with full visual impairment. Due to the structured nature of the curriculum, course substitutions are not available.

Students who believe they may need accommodations are encouraged to contact the Academic Dean or the Student Services ADA Liaison as early as possible, ideally before the start of the semester, so that appropriate arrangements can be made in advance.

Contact for the ADA coordinator:

Dr. Jessica Fritz, DACM, AP
Academic Dean
Academicdean@dragonrises.edu

Student Services ADA Liaison
Sherry Ingbrtisen
singbritsen@dragonrises.edu

Confidentiality is subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).

Student Complaints and Grievances

Students with inquiries about assignments, quizzes, and/or exam questions should direct them to their individual instructor. Additional questions that are academic in nature should be addressed with the Academic Dean. Any other questions or concerns a student may have regarding administrative matters, personal matters, or scheduling should be taken up with the Director of Student Services.

Unresolved concerns can be appealed to the Executive Director. The Executive Director has the responsibility of reaching a decision that balances both the interests of the student and of the College. Students with grievances must first complete a written statement; grievance forms are available from the Director of Student Services. All concerns must be put in writing and submitted to the Executive Director. Grievances shall be submitted within 20 days of the action in question. The Executive Director will review the grievance with all parties concerned and will issue a decision. The decision of the Executive Director is final.

Any student who is dissatisfied after following the college's internal process may submit a complaint to the Commission for Independent Education, Florida Department of Education, 325 W. Gaines St., Suite 1414, Tallahassee, FL 32399 (888-224-6684).

The complaint can also be filed with the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (ACAHM). ACAHM is located at 500 Lake Street, Suite 204, Excelsior, MN 55331. Phone (952) 212-2434 ~ Fax (952) 657-7068, www.acahm.org. Grievance forms are available from the Director of Student Services.

Student Code of Conduct

Professional behavior is an academic requirement of the program. Incidents of unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated, and immediate corrective action will be taken by the Administration. Faculty and staff are responsible for reporting any such incidents to the Academic Dean. Students may be disciplined or dismissed for any of the following reasons:

- Disruptive or unprofessional behavior, or obstruction of the DRCOM educational process, administrative process, or any other college function.

- Unsatisfactory academic performance
- Drugs or alcohol on campus
- Theft or vandalism
- Cheating or plagiarism
- Failure to meet financial requirements.
- Removal of confidential patient records from the campus or clinic.
- Failure to protect the privacy of any patient, in any manner.
- Violation of any order of the DRCOM Executive Director, notice of which has been given prior to such violation.

Physical Facilities and Equipment

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine is located in Bradenton, Florida. It is a complete educational facility, with lecture rooms, a student clinic, herb dispensary, student lounge, library, study room, and administrative offices. Audiovisual equipment, anatomical models, textbooks, and charts are used in the classroom. The college also contracts with outside clinics to provide students with an opportunity to observe other practitioners.

Pursuant to compliance with the October 18, 2023, State Board of Education Rule 6E-7.001, F.A.C. Designation of Restrooms and Changing Facilities in Private Postsecondary Educational Institutions, and Section 553.865, F.S. Safety in Private Spaces Act, pertaining to the use of restrooms and changing facilities by males or females based on biological sex at birth, DRCOM establishes in its Policy & Procedures the following guidelines for its facilities:

- There are no designated changing facilities.
- Our restrooms are designated either (a) for exclusive use by males or females or (b) designated as a unisex restroom.
- Conduct violating this designated use of facilities will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate termination or expulsion.
- Any person, not a student, administrative personnel, or instructional personnel, improperly entering a restroom designated for the opposite sex on the DRCOM premises and refusing to depart when asked to do so by college personnel, will be reported to law enforcement.
- Students, administrative personnel, instructional personnel, and law enforcement have the right to file a complaint with the Attorney General alleging that the institution has failed to meet the minimum requirements for restrooms and changing facilities under Sections 553.865(4) and (5), F.S.

Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking, Substance Use

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine, as a healthcare professional training facility, is a smoke-free, vape-free, tobacco-free, alcohol-free, and drug-free facility. Smoking, vaping, dipping, alcohol use, or use of any drug is strictly forbidden. Help for problems with addiction is provided online at [alcoholtreatment.niaaa.nih.gov] & [drugabuse.gov]

Hybrid/Distance Education Program

Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine (DRCOM) has established a distance learning management system to offer online educational experiences to students. The platform utilized is where students can log in and experience all aspects of student life, including course content, tests and assignments, chat rooms, professor and student interaction, and feedback. From software to hardware and support services, DRCOM's goal is to offer quality online programs to students while promoting self-efficacy and confidence in our graduates.

Students must be enrolled in the Hybrid Distance Education (DE) program for the combined Master of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine and Bachelor of Health Sciences program to take hybrid courses.

The Hybrid DE program is managed by the institution using the Populi integrated student information system (SIS) and Learning management system (LMS). Populi is a feature-rich system that provides for all phases of the student experiences from enrollment through post-graduation. The LMS portion of the Populi system is a full-featured LMS. Some of the main features of the system include the following:

- Online tests & discussion that allows faculty to build, administer, and grade tests and quizzes. This provides quick feedback and the ability to conduct automated grading for tests and discussions.

- Assignment submission that provides students with a secure electronic assignment submission. Faculty get an integrated interface for grading, rubrics, and feedback.

- File management & video hosting is provided to permit the upload of files, videos, audio, and the use of these in assignments, lessons, tests, and discussions. Content streaming is optimized for students' devices and locations.

Florida Residency Requirement for Hybrid Students

Students admitted to the Hybrid (Synchronous Distance Education) program are required to establish and maintain a Florida residence throughout their enrollment at Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine (DRCOM). Hybrid students must designate a Florida address as their primary place of residence while enrolled. Students who maintain another residence outside the State of Florida must ensure that their Florida residence remains their principal residence during all scheduled academic terms, including any clinical education, practical examinations, and all hands-on instructional courses. Students are responsible for notifying the DRCOM, in writing, of any change to their Florida residence during enrollment.

As a condition of admission to the Hybrid program, applicants must provide documentation verifying Florida residency. Acceptable documentation includes, but is not limited to:

- Florida driver's license or other government-issued identification;
- Residential lease or rental agreement;
- Utility bill, mobile phone statement, or medical bill dated within the previous sixty (60) days;
- Florida voter registration card;
- Redacted bank or financial statement;
- Automobile insurance or automobile payment statement;
- Letter from a shelter or transitional housing provider dated within the previous sixty (60) days; or
- Other official documentation reasonably demonstrating Florida residency.

Applicants who do not possess documentation in their own name may satisfy this requirement by submitting a completed Certification of Address form signed by the individual with whom they reside, together with two (2) acceptable proofs of that individual's Florida residence, in accordance with College procedures.

The College reserves the right to request updated proof of Florida residency at any time during a student's enrollment to verify continued compliance with this policy. Failure to establish or maintain Florida residency, or failure to provide requested documentation, may result in denial of admission to the Hybrid program or administrative action, including a change in enrollment status or other action permitted under College policies. Students enrolled in the Hybrid program remain responsible for attending all required on-campus instructional activities and supervised clinical education experiences as published in the academic schedule.

Enrollment Process for Online/Hybrid

Admissions requirements and admissions criteria are identical for campus-based and distance education modalities. Interested students are encouraged to contact the Admissions Department and schedule an interview. The interview can be held on campus or online via online video chat. The admissions staff will review the admissions criteria and explain the DRCOM academic program. If the student desires to apply, DRCOM will forward the application and appropriate

forms to the student via the website [dragonrises.edu/prospective-students/apply-online/]or email.

Online/Hybrid Admissions Procedure

New classes begin each Semester (Fall, Spring, and Summer). All applications, interviews, and enrollment forms must be completed by the last day of the previous semester to be considered. The applicant must submit the following to the Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine admissions office:

- A completed application, with a $50 application fee. This fee is non-refundable and can be paid via the DRCOM website. [dragonrises.edu/prospective-students/admissions/how-to-apply/]
- A word-processed document containing relevant biographical data, basic philosophy of healthcare, and a statement relating to how the applicant became interested in the field of acupuncture and natural healthcare.
- Two recent color photos.
- Copy of driver's license and social security card or passport.
- Resume or CV
- Copy of any professional licenses held.
- A signed Applicant's Health Certification form dragonrises.edu/new-student-health-certification/
- Technology Requirement Acknowledgement form.
- Two Personal Reference Forms [dragonrises.edu/applicant-reference-letter/]
- Official transcripts from all academic institutions previously attended, sent directly to the College.
  - Foreign transcript documents written in a language other than English must include the original, a notarized English translation, and an evaluation by the credential evaluation service, sent directly to the college.

Once all admissions documents have been received, a representative of DRCOM will schedule a virtual or in-person interview with DRCOM Admissions Director and the Academic Dean at a mutually convenient time.

Once a student is accepted by DRCOM, the institution will schedule an online enrollment appointment. During this appointment, the admissions staff will guide the enrollee through the enrollment paperwork and ensure that the student has a complete understanding of the

academic programs, the program costs, program timelines, and the method of delivery. The institution will collect the $75 enrollment fee at this time. This fee is non-refundable after 5 days. The student will sign the enrollment agreement and other required paperwork electronically. Students will be explicitly advised of the on-campus attendance requirements for all in-person synchronous courses.

Attendance & Camera Usage

The Hybrid Distance Education (DE) modality follows the same attendance policies as prescribed above for traditional, on-campus students regarding classroom hours missed and the repercussions for failing to do so. DE policies vary occasionally as the remote learning aspects of DE may require further accommodations. Occasionally, variables beyond the student's control may adversely impact their ability to attend class (i.e., power outage in their area, internet outage, technology breach or failure). It is the student's responsibility to contact their class instructor at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure they are aware of the student's situation. If no faculty member is available, students should contact an administrative member and coordinate communications with their instructors. Further, it is the student's responsibility to make up missed course content by utilizing the technology available, including the full video and text-based archives of past class sessions, which are made available on their Class Cohort calendar stored in their Google Workspace Calendar. Any missed quizzes, exams, projects, or presentations will be permitted to be made up at the instructor's discretion. If the student feels it warranted, a follow-up with the Academic Dean is permitted to resolve potentially unfair or unreasonable grading standards.

ATTENDANCE:

Distance Education weekends are designed to provide the hands-on, practical portion of weekly class sessions in order to meet the mandated contact hours required by Dragon Rises College and its ACAHM accreditors. Occasionally, circumstances make student attendance on these designated weekends impossible.

Practical class sessions average four (4) hours per class, per DE weekend. Depending on the student's program progress, this may be between 4 and 18 practical hours that must be made up. If more than one DE weekend is planned to be missed, the student should contact the Academic Dean to inquire about withdrawing from the course and taking the course in a subsequent semester. This needs to be done prior to the end of the drop/add period, which is the first week of the start of classes. Please refer to the Academic calendar for specific dates. Any absence after the drop/add period will be subject to the guidelines below.

GUIDELINES:

- Valid, excused absences will be afforded a make-up opportunity. The first Monday and Tuesday immediately following the semester's completion are designated as clinical contact hours make-up days. It is the student's responsibility to contact both their

instructor and the Academic Dean to inquire about scheduling classes these days. The student must be available at the times scheduled by the instructor and the Academic Dean, else the make-up opportunity will be forfeited.

- Valid, excused absences include a host of variables too numerous to list, but could include illness, death in the family, transportation failures, among others. Documentation must be provided to the Academic Dean before a makeup session can be arranged.
- Missing two (2) DE weekends, regardless of justification (excused or unexcused), is grounds for failing the course and retaking the course in its entirety in a subsequent semester.
- All expenses incurred by students for their DE weekends, including but not limited to hotels, airfare, gas/mileage, car rentals, food, etc, are solely the responsibility of the student. DRCOM does not carry responsibility for any expenses, nor are the expenses incurred eligible for reimbursement.
- Travel time needed to attend DE weekends is not an excused absence from classes on regular scheduled class days. Students must make arrangements to be on campus for their scheduled DE weekend, around regular class times, and will not be excused due to travel.

CAMERA POLICY

The purpose of the following webcam standard is to avoid student distractions where possible, to ensure student engagement and participation, to ensure minimum attendance requirements are being met, and to minimize disruptions to the flow of the class session being held remotely.

Camera usage:

Cameras must be online and enabled while in a class session to verify active participation. Students should attend their class session in a secure, relatively quiet workspace to ensure limited distractions for themselves and fellow colleagues in attendance. Student interactions help faculty ensure their education goals are being met, and to confirm the student is awake, alert, attentive, and grasping the content being presented. Students' faces must be in frame to be counted as participation in the class session. Students must be shown from the neck up, with as few visual distractions in the background as possible.

Although rare, it will be at the faculty's discretion when to permit student cameras to be disabled. The student must have a verifiable, written reason for making this request. Exceptions to this rule will be handled on a case-by-case basis and determined by the faculty, the Academic Dean, the DE Administrator, and/or the Executive Director.

Joining a class session while driving an automobile is not permitted and will be recorded as an absence. Repeated violations of this policy will result in a referral to the Academic Dean and an appropriate warranted response.

TECHNOLOGY

There are several required components in order to fully utilize the distance education program, including:

- Functional laptop or desktop computer, including a webcam, microphone, and speakers (most laptops have these components integrated). In emergency cases, mobile devices such as a phone or tablet may be used to join an in-class session, but may not be able to access the class archives.
- Updated Google Chrome web browser
- Stable, reliable, high-speed/broadband internet connection
- Access to the student's @dragonrises.edu account

A suite of software tools will be used in Populi when administering an exam, quiz, or assignment. Available Integrity Tools consist of a (a) Fullscreen monitor, ensuring students do not leave the focused window containing the quiz/exam; (b) Copy & Paste Tracker, which is used to dissuade the use of AI GPT tools to write content. Content that is copied and pasted from another source is recorded and sent to the Faculty for review; (c) Webcam Monitor, which will take pictures of the student using their webcam at random intervals.

Student Orientation

New students attend a New Student Orientation prior to the first day of class *(usually the Monday preceding the first day of classes for their incoming semester)*. Student orientation for online students takes place via video conferencing software. This orientation mirrors the existing comprehensive orientation program provided to on-ground students. At Orientation, the College's academic and administrative policies are reviewed. Students receive initial or updated catalogs and handbooks via Populi. The student orientation includes the following items:

- Information on accessing all Departments.
- Academic Policies
- Conduct Codes
- A review of Frequently Asked Questions
- Technology Requirements for Distance Learning
- Training for access and basic operation of the student LMSi portal and conferencing software access
- Provide accessibility to a mental health telemedicine program provided to students.

A one-on-one New Student IT Training Session is provided for each new student before classes commence, to ensure their credentials are functional, access is available, and to provide a systems operational overview. This should be done as early in the enrollment process to ensure any IT issues that may arise are able to be rectified before the first day of classes.

An additional Clinic orientation is held prior to entering the clinic in the sixth semester of study. This orientation covers clinic policies and methods, and OSHA and HIPAA regulations.

Instructional Materials

Learning materials (including textbooks) are provided by the institution. Other learning aids, syllabi, instructor contact information, and office hours are distributed through the LMS. Throughout the course, student-written assignments, exams, projects, and discussions are submitted via the Populi LMS.

Course Delivery and Content

Dragon Rises' online courses mirror the existing on-ground Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture curriculum in content and length. Dragon Rises offers its online courses in digital and in-person synchronous learning modalities. Courses consisting solely of didactic lectures will be offered as fully online courses. Courses that require laboratory skills practice or clinical experiences will be offered in a hybrid format as discussed below.

Online Didactic Courses Delivery

For fully online courses, the classes are held synchronously with the on-campus course at its respective campus. Students enrolled in the Distance Education program will parallel the on-campus course in Bradenton, with the exception of their clinical contact hours. This parallel structure includes attending regularly-scheduled classes on their scheduled days and times, and participating in the course via online conferencing software. DRCOM currently uses Google Meet. All faculty have experience conducting real-time virtual courses using this technology, including integrating with lecture materials (PowerPoint slides, videos, websites, online resources) and the use of breakout rooms for small group discussion.

In-Person Synchronous Course Delivery

For courses that include instruction in a lab or demonstration setting that require the student to demonstrate patient care or treatment competency, students are expected to attend the physical campus one weekend per month, on average, or four times per semester. These monthly sessions are usually held at a campus location and scheduled based on course requirements as prescribed in the specific course syllabus. These times are subject to change based on the amount of hands-on training required each semester. The number of hours for hands-on practice is equivalent to on-ground courses. Students travelling to the Bradenton campus for clinical sessions are responsible for their own transportation to and from, their own housing, and their own personal needs while travelling to and from campus, including all expenses invoiced with these matters.

Hybrid/Distance Education Weekends

(informally, "DE Weekends") are on-campus clinical sessions intended to cover the practical hands-on portion of the on-campus weekly class sessions, but instead of weekly practical sessions, that time is aggregated into one session, covering the same contact hours. *(Example: course ABC123 has weekly 3-hour classes, with 1 hour of that time dedicated to practicals. For a Hybrid course, the first 2 hours are didactic and will be done remotely; the last hour will be made up*

during the next DE Weekend. If ABC123 has four classes in a month and then a DE Weekend, the practical portion will cover the 4 hours of practical time from the previous 4 class sessions.]

Missing a regularly-scheduled DE Weekend is frowned upon, and it is with our strongest advisement that this not happen. Valid, excused absences will be afforded a make-up opportunity for one missed class session. The first Monday and Tuesday immediately following the semester's completion are designated as clinical contact hours make-up days. It is the student's responsibility to contact both their instructor and the Academic Dean to inquire about scheduling classes these days. The student must be available at the times scheduled by the Instructor and the Academic Dean, else the make-up opportunity will be forfeited.

Valid, excused absences include a host of variables too numerous to list, but could include illness, death in the family, transportation failures, among others. Documentation must be provided to the Academic Dean before a makeup session can be arranged. If a scheduled makeup session is missed, a $200 fee per class will be assessed, plus any testing or examination fees as listed in this Academic Catalog, and the student should contact the Academic Dean to inquire about withdrawing from the course and retaking the course in a subsequent semester. All fees must be paid before the student is permitted to register for the following semester.

Missing two (2) DE weekends, regardless of justification (excused or unexcused), is grounds for failing the course and retaking the course in its entirety in a subsequent semester.

Clinical Courses

Clinical courses are considered hybrid courses. Clinical coursework may be done at the DRCOM clinic facility or at an approved off-site clinic. Clinical sites are arranged by the student, in conjunction with DRCOM, and students require approval of the Clinic Director/Executive Director to attend these sites. Depending on the student's distance from campus, it is advisable that the student contact a local College-approved clinic, where clinical training hours can be monitored and recorded. For clinical coursework, the LMS is used primarily for administrative purposes, including syllabi, time tracking, attendance, maintaining records of student diagnoses and experiences, providing formal faculty feedback, and grading. Distance education students must perform the same number of clinical hours per course as a fully on-campus student.

Access to Instructional Materials, Grades, and the Test Process

Regardless of course modality, the LMS remains the backbone of the instructional system, providing access to learning materials and online library resources, and is used to submit all student work for grading. Work is graded within the LMS and is available directly to the student. Faculty are encouraged to grade submitted work within seven, preferably three, days of completion. The Populi SIS/LMS provides easy student access to grades (current courses and past courses, a degree audit function, as well as access to a free unofficial transcript, among other features). Examinations are given via the Populi LMS simultaneously. Tests must be taken live

and during scheduled class hours, and students must keep their cameras on for the duration of the exam.

Faculty Contact

The Populi SIS/LMS also provides a robust platform for student engagement. Instructor's contact information is presented in Populi, and students can reach out to faculty either internally within the LMS or via college email. Faculty are expected to respond to student emails within 24 hours and are expected to monitor emails on a regular basis.

Attendance

Attendance is posted for each class session inside the Populi LMS. Attendance and active participation in the course can also be tracked by the date that assignments and projects are submitted. Since the LMS is fully integrated with the SIS, final grades are easily posted to the student's permanent academic record. Students are advised that they are required to be on-campus one weekend per month when taking hybrid courses.

Learning Resources

The college provides all students with access to information resources and services appropriate to support the program or courses through its learning management system. Populi houses all syllabi, links to library resources, and assignment information.

DRCOM has made available EBSCO's Alt Health Watch digital research database (available titles link), encompassing many topics relevant to the program's course of study, including Acupuncture, Bodywork, Chinese medicine, Herbology, Homeopathy, Mind-body medicine, and East Asian Food Therapy, among other topics. Each student has their own access credentials, and the database includes full, downloadable PDF documents of journal entries, periodical articles, and various other types of documents, as well as the correct citation for each. Different databases may be added or deleted in the future, as the students' needs become clearer.

The Curriculum

	Hours	*Credits*	
Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine	1185	71	1 clock hour = 50 minutes
Herbology	480	32	15 didactic hours = 1 credit
Western Medicine	585	38	15 lab hours - .5 credit
Business	105	7	
Clinical Training	870	29*	* 30 Clinic hours = 1 credit
TOTAL	**3225**	**177**	

All students follow the same course of study.
Students who make satisfactory progress automatically move from semester to semester.

Description of Course Numbering System

The prefix indicates the course level:	The three-letter prefixes are explained by the listed course names. Three-digit code numbers:
B: Baccalaureate level	First number = course level
G: General Education	Middle number = type of course – didactic (0) or clinic (1)
M: Master level	Last number = number in a course series. Courses in a series must be taken in order.

One Academic year includes two consecutive semesters. While the program covers 10 semesters, for Financial Aid and Federal Reporting, it covers five (5) Academic Years.

All classes operate on a semester credit hour scale; no program or courses operate using the quarterly scale structure.

1 clock hour = 50 minutes 15 didactic hours = 1 credit 30 Clinic hours = 1 Credit

See the following tables for curriculum breakdown, by semester, academic year, specific course delegation, and modality (didactic versus clinical).

Prerequisites for courses are listed with course descriptions.

All courses are offered in a traditional on-campus modality. Courses marked with a single asterisk (*) after the course name may be offered in an online modality. Courses with a double asterisk (**) may be offered either as an on-campus course or as a blended modality where some work may be completed online, but some coursework must be completed on campus or in a designated clinical site under faculty or preceptor supervision.

Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine

Course No.	Course Name	Hours	Credits
BG-OMA 101	Oriental Medical Assessment I*	45	3
BG-OPP 101	Oriental Physiology and Pathology I*	75	5
BG-MER 101	Channel Theory & Point Location I**	45	2.5
BG-OEE 101	Oriental Energy Exercises I**	30	1.5
B-OPP 102	Oriental Physiology and Pathology II*	75	5
B-MER 102	Channel Theory and Point Location II **	45	2.5
BG-OEE 102	Oriental Energy Exercises II**	30	1.5
B-OMA 102	Oriental Medical Assessment II*	30	2
BG-CCP 101	Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis® I**	30	1.5
B-MER 103	Channel Theory and Point Location III**	45	2.5
BG-OEE 103	Oriental Energy Exercises III**	30	1.5
BG-ATT 101	Acupuncture Theory and Techniques I**	30	1.5
BG-OHP 101	Oriental History and Philosophy*	30	2
M-CCP 202	Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis® II**	30	1.5
M-OIM 201	Oriental Internal Medicine I*	30‡	2
M-CDM 301	COM Diagnosis and Management I*	30	1.75
M-ATT 202	Acupuncture Theory and Techniques II**	30	1.5
M-MER 204	Channel Theory and Point Location IV	45	2.5
M-CCP 303	Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis® III**	30	1.5
M-OIM 302	Oriental Internal Medicine II*	30‡	2
M-ATT 203	Acupuncture Theory and Techniques III**	45	2.5
M-CDM 302	COM Diagnosis and Management II*	30	2
M-CCP 304	Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis® IV**	30	1.5
M-OIM 303	Oriental Internal Medicine III*	30‡	2
M-CDM 303	COM Diagnosis and Management III*	30	2
M-OFT 301	Oriental Food Therapy*	30	2
M-OMA 203	Oriental Medical Assessment III*	30	2
M-ADJ 201	Introduction to Adjunctive Therapies**	30	2
M-OIM 304	Integrative Medicine Dermatology	15‡	1
M-OIM 305	Integrative Medicine Gynecology	15†	1
M-OIM 306	Integrative Medicine Oncology	15†	1
M-OIM 307	Integrative Medicine Pediatrics	15†	1
M-OBW 201	Oriental Bodywork **	45	2.25
M-BDR 301	Board Review – Acupuncture*	30	2
M-BDR 304	Board Review - Foundations	30	2

Total Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Hours	**1185**	**71**

† An additional 15 hours of this course are listed in Herbology.
‡An additional 30 hours of this course are listed in Herbology

Herbology

Course No.	Course Name	Hours	Credits
BG-CHT 101	Chinese Herbal Terminology*	15	1
B-HER 101	Chinese Herbs I*	60	4
M-HER 102	Chinese Herbs II*	60	4
M-HER 203	Chinese Herbal Formulas I*	60	4
M-HER 304	Chinese Herbal Formulas II*	60	4
M-HER 305	Chinese Herbal Patents	30	2
M-HDP 101	Herbal Dispensary	15	1
M-OIM 201	Oriental Internal Medicine I*	30•	2•
M-OIM 302	Oriental Internal Medicine II*	30•	2•
M-OIM 303	Oriental Internal Medicine III*	30•	2•
M-OIM 304	Integrative Medicine Dermatology*	15•	1**
M-OIM 305	INtegrative Medicine Gynecology*	15••	1••
M-OIM-306	Integrative Medicine Oncology*	15	1**
M-OIM 307	Integrative Medicine Pediatrics*	15	1**
M-BDR 303	Board Review – Herbology*	30	2
	Total Herbology Hours	**480**	**32**

• 60-hour course, 30 hours under Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

• • 30-hour course, 15 hours under Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine;

• • • 60- hour course, 45 hours under Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

Clinical Studies: Integrated Acupuncture, Oriental Medicine, and Herbs

Course No.	Course Name	Hours	Credits
B-OBS 111	Clinical Observation I**	15	.50
B-OBS 112	Clinical Observation II**	35	1.16
B-OBS 113	Clinical Observation III**	50	1.67
B-OBS 114	Clinical Observation IV**	50	1.67
M-SUP 211	Clinical Supervision I**	90	3
M-SUP 212	Clinical Supervision II**	110	3.67
M-INT 311	Clinical Internship I**	120	4
M-INT 312	Clinical Internship II**	180	6
M-INT 313	Clinical Internship III**	220	7.33
	Total Clinical Training Hours	**870**	**29**

Western Medicine

Course No.	Course Name	Hours	Credits
BG-WMT 101	Western Medical Terminology*	15	1
BG-WAP 101	Western Anatomy and Physiology I*	60	4
BG-WAP 102	Western Anatomy and Physiology II*	60	4
B-WBC 101	Biochemistry*	15	1
B-MDM 101	Medical Decision Making I	15	1
M-WPE 201	Western Physical Exam **	45	2.5
M-WDP 301	Western Diagnostics and Pathology I	45	3
M-WPY 301	Western Abnormal Psychology*	30	2
M-WNT 201	Nutrition and Dietary Therapy*	30	2
M-WDP 302	Western Diagnostics and Pathology II*	30	2
M-MDM 202	Medical Decision Making II	15	1
M-WPH 301	Pharmacology*	45	3
M-WLI 301	Western Laboratory Testing and Imaging*	30	2
B-WHR 101	Western Herbology*	30	2
M-AIT 301	Acupoint Injection Therapy*	60	3.5
M-WMR 301	Introduction to Medical Research*	30	2
M-BDR 302	Board Review – Biomedicine*	30	2
	Total Western Medicine Hours	**585**	**38**

Business

Course No.	Course Name	Hours	Credits
B-ETH 101	Ethics in Medicine*	15	1
B-MDM 101	Medical Decision Making I	15	1
M-MDM 202	Medical Decision Making II	15	1
M-PMG 201	Practice Management*	30	2
M-LAW 201	Florida Laws and Rules*	30	2
	Total Business hours	**105**	**7**

TOTAL CURRICULUM HOURS / CREDITS	**3225**	**177**

Curriculum by Semester

This 10-semester program is completed in 3 years and 4 months.
There is a 2-week break between each semester.

	FIRST ACADEMIC YEAR		
Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
First Semester			
CHT 101	Chinese Herbal Terminology	15	1
ETH 101	Ethics in Medicine	15	1
MER 101	Channel Theory & Point Location I	45	2.5
OEE 101	Oriental Energy Exercises I	30	1.5
OPP 101	Oriental Physiology and Pathology I	75	5
OHP 101	Oriental History and Philosophy	30	2
WAP 101	Western Anatomy and Physiology I	60	4
WMT 101	Western Medical Terminology	15	1
	TOTALS	**285**	**18**
Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
Second Semester			
HER 101	Chinese Herbs I	60	4
MER 102	Channel Theory and Point Location II	45	2.5
OBS 111	Clinical Observation I	15	0.50
OEE 102	Oriental Energy Exercises II	30	1.5
OMA 101	Oriental Medical Assessment I	45	3
OPP 102	Oriental Physiology and Pathology II	75	5
WAP 102	Western Anatomy and Physiology II	60	4
	TOTALS	**330**	**20.5**

	SECOND ACADEMIC YEAR		
Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
Third Semester			
ATT 101	Acupuncture Theory and Techniques I	30	1.5
CCP 101	Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis® I	30	1.5
HER 102	Chinese Herbs II	60	4
MER 103	Channel Theory and Point Location III	45	2.5
OBS 112	Clinical Observation II	35	1.16
OEE 103	Oriental Energy Exercises III	30	1.5
OMA 102	Oriental Medical Assessment II	30	2
WBC 101	Biochemistry	15	1
WDM 101	Medical Decision Making I	30	2

		TOTALS	**305**	**17.16**
Course	**Course Description**		**Hours**	**Credits**
Fourth Semester				
ATT 202	Acupuncture Theory and Techniques II		30	1.5
CCP 202	Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis® II		30	1.5
CDM 301	COM Diagnosis & Management I		30	1.75
HER 203	Chinese Herbal Formulas I		60	4
HDP 101	Herbal Dispensary		15	1
MER 204	Channel Theory and Point Location IV		45	2.5
OBS 113	Clinical Observation III		50	1.67
OMA 203	Oriental Medical Assessment III		30	2
OIM 201	Oriental Internal Medicine I		60	4
		TOTALS	**350**	**19.92**

	THIRD ACADEMIC YEAR		
Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
Fifth Semester			
ATT 203	Acupuncture Theory and Techniques III	45	2.25
CCP 303	Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis® III	30	1.5
CDM 302	COM Diagnosis & Management II	30	2
HER 304	Chinese Herbal Formulas II	60	4
OBS 114	Clinical Observation IV	50	1.67
OBW 201	Oriental Bodywork I	45	2.25
OIM 302	Oriental Internal Medicine II	60	4
WPE 201	Western Physical Exam	45	2.5
	TOTALS	**365**	**20.42**
Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
Sixth Semester			
CCP 304	Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis IV	30	1.5
CDM 303	COM Diagnosis and Management III	30	2
OFT 301	Oriental Food Therapy	30	2
OIM 303	Oriental Internal Medicine III	60	4
SUP 211	Clinical Supervision I	90	3
WDP 301	Western Diagnostics and Pathology I	45	3
WPY 301	Western Abnormal Psychology	30	2
	TOTALS	**315**	**17.5**

	FOURTH ACADEMIC YEAR		
Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
Seventh Semester			
ADJ 201	Introduction to Adjunctive Therapies	30	2

OIM 304	Integrative Medicine Dermatology	30	2
OIM 306	Integrative Medicine Oncology	30	2
PMG 201	Practice Management	30	2
SUP 212	Clinical Supervision II	110	3.67
MDM 202	Medical Decision Making II	30	2
WNT 201	Nutrition and Dietary Therapy	30	2
WDP 302	Western Diagnostics and Pathology II	30	2
	TOTALS	**320**	**17.67**

Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
Eighth Semester			
INT 311	Clinical Internship I	120	4
OIM 305	Integrative Medicine Gynecology	30	2
WLI 301	Western Laboratory Testing and Imaging	30	2
WPH 301	Pharmacology	45	3
OIM 307	Integrative Medicine Pediatrics	30	2
AIT 301	Acupoint Injection Therapy	60	3.5
	TOTALS	**315**	**16.5**

	FIFTH ACADEMIC YEAR		
Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
Ninth Semester			
HER 305	Chinese Herbal Patent Medicines	30	2
WMR 301	Introduction to Medical Research	30	2
BDR 301	Board Examination Review (Acupuncture)	30	2
BDR 304	Board Examination Review (Foundations)	30	2
INT 312	Clinical Internship II	180	6
	TOTALS	**300**	**14**

Course	**Course Description**	**Hours**	**Credits**
Tenth Semester			
INT 313	Clinical Internship III	220	7.33
LAW 201	Florida Laws and Rules	30	2
WHR 101	Western Herbology	30	2
BDR 302	Board Examination Review (Biomedicine)	30	2
BDR 303	Board Examination Review (Herbology)	30	2
	TOTALS	**340**	**15.33**
	TOTAL CURRICULUM HOURS/CREDITS	**3225**	**177**

Course Descriptions

All classes, excluding Clinical-only classes, are offered in a hybrid modality; all didactic classes have an online learning component.

Courses marked with a single diamond (♦) after the course name also contains a clinical component, which will be conducted on designated Distance Education weekends, where clinical, hands-on practice sessions will take place. All Hybrid-enrolled students are required to attend the clinical sessions, located on our Bradenton, FL campus, approximately once monthly.

Courses marked with a heart (♥) are purely Clinical classes and have no didactic component; these courses must be in a Clinical setting, in their entirety.

Prerequisite courses, previously passed courses required to enroll, are in parentheses *(Example)* following the course title.

For *time estimation* per week, divide the number of Lecture or Lab hours by 15 (fifteen) - the number of weeks in a semester. For example, a **30-hour lecture/15 hrs Lab** class can expect 2 hours per week of lecture and 1 clinical hours per week.

SEMESTER 1

CHT 101 Chinese Herbal Terminology
15 hours (1 credit)

Students will learn Chinese medical terms relevant to the study of herbal medicine. Emphasis will be placed on the correct spelling and pronunciation of Pinyin. Students will be introduced to Chinese herbal medicine principles.

ETH 101 Ethics in Medicine
15 hours (1 credit)

Students will learn the ethical aspects of practicing acupuncture and herbal prescribing as set forth in Florida Statutes Chapters 456 & 457 and the practical application of ethical and legal responsibilities as they relate to treating with acupuncture and herbs.

MER 101 Channel Theory and Point Location I ♦
30 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (2.5 credits)

This foundational course introduces students to the anatomy and theory of the jingluo (channels and collaterals) as the basis for the study of acupuncture point location and function. Students examine the relationships between the channel system and relevant

Western anatomical structures, including muscles, bones, joints, and major neurovascular landmarks. Emphasis is placed on developing hands-on palpation skills and the ability to identify anatomical and surface landmarks associated with channel pathways. Students will begin to integrate anatomical knowledge with traditional channel theory to understand the location, course, and clinical significance of the primary channels. This course establishes the foundational knowledge and practical skills necessary for accurate acupuncture point location and prepares students for the progressive study of point functions, actions, indications, and clinical applications in subsequent Meridians courses.

OEE 101 Oriental Energy Exercises I
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

Internal Qigong (energy cultivation) exercises are introduced as tools for maintaining wellness and healing. The classes will be a series of exercises, which enable the student to experience the nature of Qi and increase awareness through breathing, alignment, and movement practices.

OHP 101 Oriental History and Philosophy
30 hrs. Lecture (2credits)

This course examines the historical development of medical concepts and theory in ancient and modern China, using anthropological, historical, and philological methods. Primary sources (in translation) are emphasized, including the Nei Jing, Nan Jing, and Dao De Jing. Fifteen hours are devoted to the historical development of herbal medicine, particularly through the examination of seminal texts such as the Shen Nong Ben Cao Jing, Shang Han Lun, Pi Wei Lun, and texts from the Wen Bing school.

OPP 101 Oriental Physiology and Pathology I
75 hours (5 credits)

This course covers the general theory of physiology: Yin Yang, Five Element, Qi, Blood and body fluids, and the functions of internal organs (Zang Fu). Internal, external, and miscellaneous causes of disease are examined, and diagnostic methods introduced. Causes of disease during the prenatal period, infancy, childhood, adolescence, and adulthood are presented. Stressors that are common in our time are investigated, including environmental toxicity and physical and emotional trauma.

WAP 101 Western Anatomy and Physiology I
60 hours (4 credits)

This course examines human anatomy and physiology in depth. Special attention is given to surface anatomy. Muscular, skeletal, respiratory, circulatory, and digestive systems from the Western model are covered.

WMT 101 Western Medical Terminology

15 hours (1 credit)

A study of Western medical terminology and nomenclature including major prefixes, roots, and suffixes.

SEMESTER 2

HER 101 Chinese Herbs I
60 hours (4 credits)

A detailed study of over 150 Chinese herbs and 75 Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) formulas and empirical formulas. Individual herbal study includes Latin and Pinyin names, category, properties, channels entered, functions, indications, contraindications, and dosage for individual herbs. Relevant pharmaceutical information, including herb-drug interactions, will be covered. Principles of herbal combination and formula design will be emphasized. Course material is designed to help students address commonly encountered clinical situations.

MER 102 Channel Theory & Pt. Loc. II ♦ *(MER 101)*
30 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (2.5 credits)

The first 15 hours of this course are dedicated to an in-depth study of channel theory. Topics covered include six-channel theory, the flow of qi through the channels, internal and external pathways, connecting and divergent meridians, and other channel relationships. Study of acupuncture points will include location, functions, indications, and categories of points such as the five Shu points, Xi-cleft, Yuan-source, Luo-connecting, Entry-Exit points. This course covers the following meridians: Lung, Large Intestine, Stomach, Spleen, and Heart.

OEE 102 Oriental Energy Exercises II *(OEE 101)*
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

Continuation of OEE 101: Deepening of the Chinese Energy Exercises experience.

OMA 101 Oriental Medical Assessment
45 hours (3 credits)

In this course, students practice opening and developing their senses. Acute observation skills are fundamental for in-depth diagnosis and patient management. Looking, listening, touching, and smelling are oriented towards illuminating the complexities of the human body.

OPP 102 Oriental Physiology and Pathology II *(OPP 101)*
75 Hours (5 Credits)

Continuation of OPP 101. Pathology is viewed in the context of the major theories of

the Eight Principles, Qi, Blood and body fluids, Shang Han Lun (Six Stage), Warm Disease (Four Level), and Zang Fu.

WAP 102 Western Anatomy and Physiology II *(WAP 101)*
60 hours (4 credits)

This is a continuation of WAP 101. Genital, Urinary, Endocrine, and Nervous Systems are covered.

OBS 111 Clinical Observation I ♥ *(OPP 101, MER 101)*
15 hours (0.5 credits)

Students will observe methods of case taking, diagnosis and treatment procedures. This course will give the beginning student exposure to the clinical practice of Chinese medicine. Emphasis will be placed on the observational assessment skills being taught in OMA 101, as well as on charting & professionalism. Approximately half the hours will be done in the Student Clinic (Internship shifts), and half will be done in External clinics approved by the College (Externship).

SEMESTER 3

ATT 101 Acupuncture Theory and Technique I ♦
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

This course covers theoretical and practical aspects of acupuncture point selection and application of non-invasive techniques for clinical efficacy. Theories of acupuncture point selection will include Channel Theory, Back-Shu and Front-Mu, source and connecting points, among others. The course will provide hands-on training in cupping, Gua-Sha, and Moxibustion.

CCP 101 Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis I ♦
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

Students will learn to correctly locate the principal and complementary positions; use the correct pressure to access the Qi, Blood, and Organ depths; and recognize the sensations of the different qualities found on the pulse. They will also learn the history behind the development of Contemporary Chinese Pulse Diagnosis. Hands-on practice with feedback from the instructor is integrated into the class.

HER 102 Chinese Herbs II *(HER 101)*
60 hours (4 credits)

Continuation of HER101, a detailed study of over 150 Chinese herbs and 75 Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) formulas and empirical formulas.

MER 103 Channel Theory & Pt. Loc. III ♦ *(MER 102)*
30 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (2.5 credits)

This course is a continuation of MER 102 and continues the study of the twelve primary channels including internal and external pathways, connecting and divergent meridians, and location, functions, indications, and categories of points such as the five shu points, Xi-cleft, Yuan-source, Luo-connecting, Entry-Exit points for the following meridians: Small Intestine, Bladder, Kidney, Pericardium and San Jiao.

OEE 103 Oriental Energy Exercises III *(OEE 102)*
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

Continuation of OEE 102: Continued deepening of Chinese Energy Exercises.

OMA 102 Oriental Medical Assessment II *(OMA 101)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course is a continuation of OMA 101. This course will cover the diagnostic significance of the signs that are observed, using the skills taught in OMA 101.

WBC 101 Biochemistry *(WAP 101, WAP 102, WMT 101)*
15 hours (1 credit)

This course on the chemistry of life will introduce the Western biochemical approach to the energy (thermodynamics; steady state), balance (homeostasis), unfolding (development; aging), creation (reproduction; genetics), and change (evolution; speciation). It is intended to provide the student with the most fundamental and important concepts upon which Western medicine is based.

MDM 101 Medical Decision Making
30 hours (2 credits)

This course will discuss clinical care pathways, including medical necessity. Students will understand the guidelines for medical documentation, including negligence. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the fundamentals of medical coding and billing to insurance and cash patients, audits, and letters of appeal and medical necessity. Rules and regulations pertaining to co-pays, fees, and discounts will be discussed. Medical records components in the Electronic Health Records (EHR) will be discussed in detail. Students will learn the best standards of evaluation and management documentation in clinical practice, including Medical Decision Making (MDM) as defined by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines. Students will master acupuncture standard episodes of care coding and documentation standards. Acupuncture and adjunct techniques adverse events identification, documentation, mitigation, and reporting guidelines, will be discussed in detail.

OBS 112 Clinical Observation II ♥ *(Prereq: OBS 111)*
35 hours (1.16 credits)

Students will observe methods of case taking, diagnosis and treatment procedures. This course gives the beginning student exposure to the clinical practice of Chinese medicine. Emphasis will be placed on the observational assessment skills being taught in OMA 101, as well as charting & professionalism. Approximately half the hours will be done in the student clinic (Internship shifts), and half will be done in external clinics approved by the College (Externship).

SEMESTER 4

ATT 202 Acupuncture Theory & Techniques II ♦ *(ATT 101)*
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

This course is a continuation of the study of theoretical and practical aspects of acupuncture point selection and application of acupuncture needling techniques.

CCP 202 Contemp. Chinese Pulse Diagnosis II ♦ *(CCP 101)*
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

Students will learn a methodology for interpreting a pulse according to the Broad, Closer and Closest focus. They will break down the pulse according to substances, activity and stability while taking into consideration the paradoxical qualities associated with age, sex, weight, and size; mental-emotional state; etiology (lifestyle vs. constitution); other signs and symptoms; prognosis and prevention.

CDM 301 COM Diagnosis and Management *(OPP 101, MER 101)*
22.5 hours/ 7.5hrs lab (1.75 credits)

This is the first of two Contemporary Oriental Medicine [COM] survey courses outlining and introducing a step-by-step process in 'how to think' in Chinese medicine. The object is to arrive at the diagnosis of an individual and their Chinese medical conditions and a logical Management-Formulation [strategy] and Management-Implementation [tactics] plan based on this diagnostic process rather than treating symptoms.

This process includes the integration of signs, [pulse (CCPD), tongue, color, etc.] with a detailed current 'Complaints and Review of Symptoms' and away from sterile protocols. It, above all, transmits the importance of this process in the development of the foundation of all healing, the therapeutic relationship. Our philosophy is that we are here to serve.

This survey course will also introduce the concepts, and procedures that augment and expand the traditional formats of Chinese medicine beyond the Eight Principles, Six

Divisions, Solid-Hollow [Zang-Fu] with an emphasis on physiology beyond catch names [attacking, rebelling, overacting etc.]. Birth History, Blocks [Stability, Trauma and Shock, Pain, Lifestyle, Structure, etc.] and some of Dr. Hammer's numerous articles and books will be discussed in the context of an ever and rapidly changing environment and culture, the reason for the term 'Contemporary'.

HER 203 Chinese Herbal Formulas I *(HER 102)*
60 hours (4 credits)

Continuation of HER102, a detailed study of over 150 Chinese herbs and 75 Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) formulas and empirical formulas.

HDP 101 Herbal Dispensary ♦ *(HER 102)*
15 hours (1 credit)

Students will learn to prepare and dispense various preparations of herbs used in the clinic, including bulk herbs, powders, dried decoctions, tea pills, liniments, plasters, and poultices.

MER 204 Channel Theory & Pt. Loc. IV ♦ *(MER 103)*
30 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (2.5 credits)

This course is a continuation of MER 103. It will complete the study of the twelve primary channels, covering Liver and Gallbladder, and will explore the point location and channel theory of the Eight Extraordinary Meridians including the pathology of the Conception and Governing Vessels. Location, function, and indications for important Extraordinary Points will be covered, as well as the physiology and pathology of the Muscle and Cutaneous Regions of the twelve primary channels.

OMA 203 Oriental Medical Assessment III *(OMA 102)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course is a continuation of OMA 102. This course integrates Chinese Medical assessment into the patient intake. The focus is on using the senses to guide the questioning. The secondary skill will be accurate documentation of signs and symptoms during the patient intake. This course highlights the information from both a COM and TCM perspective.

OIM 201 Oriental Internal Medicine I *(OMA 102, MER 103, HER 102)*
60 hours (4 credits)

This course organizes diagnosis and treatment strategies by disease entities. This course focuses on epidemic, respiratory and infectious diseases, and disorders of the eyes, ears, nose, and throat. The etiology, pathology, diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of each condition will be covered. Selection of acupuncture points and modified herbal formulas to meet the needs of the individual will be emphasized. 30 hours will be dedicated to herbal medicine.

OBS 113 Clinical Observation III ♥ *(OBS 112)*
50 hours (1.67 credits)

Students will observe methods of case taking, diagnosis and treatment procedures. This course gives the beginning student exposure to the clinical practice of Chinese medicine. Emphasis will be placed on the observational assessment skills being taught in OMA, as well as on charting & professionalism. Approximately half the hours will be done in the Student Clinic (Internship shifts), and half will be done in External clinics approved by the College (Externship). Provides real life examples of material taught in Chinese Medicine classes.

SEMESTER 5

ATT 203 Acupuncture Theory & Tech. III ♦ *(ATT 202)*
30 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (2.5 credits)

This course covers advanced theoretical and practical aspects of acupuncture point selection and application of acupuncture needling techniques. It includes extraordinary vessels, blocks and divergent channels. Micro systems such as auricular acupuncture and scalp acupuncture will be covered. The course will include training in advanced needling, electro-acupuncture, and seven-star needling.

CCP 303 Contemp. Chinese Pulse Diagnosis III ♦ *(CCP 202)*
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

Students will continue to access depths, positions, and pulse qualities. They will take an\ in-depth pulse (including principal and complementary positions) and compare their findings with the instructor's while getting hands-on feedback. They will continue using the methodology for interpretation of the pulses from volunteer subjects.

CDM 302 COM Diagnosis and Management II *(OPP 102, CDM 301)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course is a continuation of CDM 301 concerned with 'how to think' in Chinese medicine and introducing the systematic methodology of acquisition with an emphasis on 'awareness', 'seeing with the third eye', and 'hearing with the third ear'. We continue to develop the methodology of assessment with emphasis on detailed diagnosis in order to ensure an accurate understanding of the individual and their Chinese Medical conditions. Emphasis is placed on the 'therapeutic relationship'. Concepts of 'Ecology', 'Terrain, Stress, Root and Vulnerability' explain Chinese Medicine's ability to address

the 'terrain' that distinguishes it from modern medicine. The philosophy that everything that is 'classical' was once 'original' leads us to embrace new observations and new ideas. The medicine is ancient but not outdated.

HER 304 Chinese Herbal Formulas II *(HER 203)*
60 hours (4 credits)

Continuation of HER203, a detailed study of over 150 Chinese herbs and 75 Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) formulas and empirical formulas.

OBW 201 Oriental Bodywork I ♦ *(MER 101, 102, 103)*
22.5 hrs. Lecture/22.5 hrs. Lab (2.25 credits)

This course covers instruction in basic manual therapy techniques of Chinese Bodywork. Students will be introduced to the theory and practice of different modalities of touch therapy, and they will learn the interview, assessment, traditional treatment protocol and application of OBW to meridians and tissues.

OIM 302 Oriental Internal Medicine II *(OIM 201, HER 203)*
60 hours (4 credits)

This course covers diagnosis and treatment principles of gastro- intestinal, genitourinary, and musculoskeletal diseases. The etiology, pathology, diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of each condition will be covered. Selection of acupuncture points and modified herbal formulas to meet the needs of the individual will be emphasized. 30 hours of the course will be dedicated to herbal medicine.

WPE 201 Western Physical Exam I ♦ *(WMT 101, WAP 101, 102)*
30 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (2.5 credits)

Western physical exam techniques for assessing function and pathology, including vital signs, heart and lung sounds, orthopedic and neurological exams. Relevant biological, chemical, and physical principles are discussed.

OBS 114 Clinical Observation IV ♥ *(Prereq: OBS 113)*
50 hours (1.67 credits)

Students will observe methods of case taking, diagnosis and treatment procedures. This course will give the beginning student exposure to the clinical practice of Chinese medicine. Emphasis will be placed on the observational assessment skills being taught in OMA, as well as on charting & professionalism. Approximately half the hours will be done in the Student Clinic, and half will be done in External clinics.

SEMESTER 6

CCP 304 Contemp. Chinese Pulse Diagnosis IV ♦ *(CCP 303)*
15 hrs. Lecture/15 hrs. Lab (1.5 credits)

Using cases from the student clinic, students will integrate and prioritize information

derived from the pulse and history in order to help develop a diagnosis management, and treatment plan.

CDM 303 COM® Diagnosis and Management III *(MER 103, CDM 302)*
30 hours (2 Credits)

This course emphasizes and continues to instruct by demonstration of the systematic acquisition of the patient's complaints, current and history, and a Review of Systems, their complete medical history in the framework of Chinese medical terminology and concept. This is the art and science of the 'Intake' that is referred to as 'Asking, Looking and Listening'. It includes penetrating questions of their existence, their personal experience of their life, asked sensitively at the acceptable moment. Awareness in Chinese medicine is the refined capacity for the penetrating diagnosis of a specific individual. 'Listening and Looking' for gestures and expressions that convey a message beyond verbal expression is the art in the art/science we call Chinese medicine. Everything that follows is predicated on the refinement of the senses in a seamless continuum with intuition.

OFT 301 Oriental Food Therapy *(OPP 102)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course reviews the fundamental aspects of nutrition and food therapy in Chinese medicine. Diagnostic patterns and recommended food therapy treatments are discussed. Therapeutic use of the five flavors, seasonal considerations, and elemental patterns are reviewed, along with diets appropriate for common Contemporary Oriental Medicine® disharmonies.

OIM 303 Oriental Internal Medicine III *(OIM 302, HER 304)*
60 hours (4 credits)

This course covers mental-emotional problems, cardiovascular disease, physical and emotional trauma, and diabetes. The etiology, pathology, diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of each condition will be covered. Selection of acupuncture points and modified herbal formulas to meet the needs of the individual will be emphasized. 30 hours are dedicated to herbal medicine.

WDP 301 Western Diagnostics & Pathology I *(WMT 101, WBC 101, WAP 102)*
45 hours (3 credits)

This course presents Western differential diagnosis and pathology of the most common problems for which patients seek medical attention. Pathology of disease will include patho-anatomy and pathophysiology. Communication with Western medical practitioners and criteria for making referrals are emphasized. Western pharmacology will be introduced. Relevant chemical, biological, and physical principles and terminology will be discussed.

WPY 301 Western Abnormal Psychology
30 hours (2 credits)

This course will cover the most common personality disorders including etiology from a developmental perspective, symptomatology, differentiation, and basic treatment approaches. It will then briefly address some of the major psychoses that might be encountered in practice and appropriate referrals. Students will be expected to end with a basic understanding of Western abnormal psychology, and how it can inform the practice of Chinese medicine.

SUP 211 Clinical Supervision I
(Prerequisites: All Semester 1-5 courses, passing score on Clinic Entrance Exam, Clinic Skills Checklist, and current CPR/First Aid Certification)
90 hours (3 credits)

In this course students begin their clinical practice with direct supervision. A supervisor gives feedback and assistance during intake, diagnosis, and management. This course emphasizes pulse taking, other assessment skills, diagnosis, point location, and treatment techniques. Students research the patient's condition in preparation for treatment and present their findings to the supervisor. Students will choose one patient they have been working with to develop and submit an intake and Symptom-Condition Chart as directed and evaluated by the Clinic Director or designee.

SEMESTER 7

ADJ 201 Introduction to Adjunctive Therapies ♦
30 hrs. Lecture (2 credits)

This course introduces the student to the therapeutic modalities covered under Chapter 457 of the Florida Statutes and other complementary therapeutic modalities used by acupuncturists. This class is an introduction, not a training in these adjunctive therapies.

MDM 202 Medical Decision Making II *(MDM101)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course is a continuation of MDM 101. Students will understand the FDA regulations pertaining to the Traditional Chinese Herbal Medicine (TCHM) terminology, quality and practice; manufacturing and dispensing standards. Medical decision-making, documentation, coding, and billing specifics pertaining to TCHM will be introduced. TCHM adverse events identification, prevention, documentation, mitigation, and reporting guidelines will be discussed in detail. Law, rules, regulations, and red flag recognition pertaining to ordering and

documenting labs & tests will be introduced. ICD-11 Chapter 26 Traditional medicine standard terminology will be introduced. The class will teach the coding correlation of the ICD-10 conventional biomedicine diagnosis to the ICD-11 traditional medicine pattern according to the United States CMS documentation guidelines. This course will discuss professional practice standards pertaining to acupuncturists in hospital and private practice.

OIM 304 Integrative Medicine Dermatology *(3rd year status)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course introduces dermatology from an East Asian medicine (EAM) perspective, integrating EAM theory with basic biomedical understanding of common skin disorders. Students examine the etiology, pathophysiology, and clinical presentation of dermatologic conditions such as eczema, psoriasis, acne, rosacea, infections, pigment disorders, and autoimmune skin diseases.

Emphasis is placed on pattern differentiation and evidence-informed treatment strategies using acupuncture, Chinese herbal medicine, dietary therapy, and lifestyle recommendations. Safety considerations, topical and internal herbal use, chronic disease management, and collaboration with biomedical dermatology providers are addressed to support effective, patient-centered care. Selection of acupuncture points and modified herbal formulas to meet the needs of the individual will be emphasized. 15 hours are devoted to herbal medicine.

OIM 306 Integrative Medicine Oncology (*3rd year status*)
30 hours (2 credits)

This course introduces integrative oncology with an emphasis on the role of East Asian Medicine (EAM) in the care and support of patients with cancer. Students examine the biomedical foundations of cancer and common conventional treatments, including surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, immunotherapy, and targeted therapies, along with their associated side effects.

The course emphasizes evidence-informed application of acupuncture, herbal medicine, dietary therapy, and mind–body approaches to support symptom management, reduce treatment-related toxicity, and improve quality of life. EAM pattern differentiation, safety considerations, herb–drug interactions, ethical practice, and collaboration with oncology providers are addressed to support effective, patient-centered integrative care. Selection of acupuncture points and modified Chinese herbal formulas to meet the needs of the individual will be emphasized. 15 hours are devoted to Chinese herbal medicine.

PMG 201 Practice Management *(MDM101, MDM102)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course will cover practice set-up (incorporation, partnerships, sole proprietor, etc.), organizational skills, insurance, office management, record keeping, billing procedures, and other related topics. Practice-building skills, such as public speaking, referrals, and promotional techniques will be addressed.

WDP 302 Western Diagnostics & Pathology II *(WDP 301)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This is a continuation of WDP 301. Two hours of medical errors and three hours of HIV/AIDS instruction are included in this course.

WNT 101 Nutrition and Dietary Therapy *(WDP 301)*
30 hours (2 credits)

A study of the practical aspects of Western nutrition, recent scientific research in nutrition and its relationship to human health and pathology. Relevant chemical, biological, and physical principles and terminology will be discussed.

SUP 212 Clinical Supervision II ♥ *(SUP 211)*
110 hours (3.67 credits)

In this course the student prepares for clinical independence while continuing to have direct supervision and assistance. The emphasis is on diagnosis and the development of clinical skills and techniques. Students will further develop the study of the patient selected in SUP 211 by submitting an updated intake and Diagnostic Catalogue as directed and evaluated by the Clinic Director or designee.

SEMESTER 8

AIT 301 Acupoint Injection Therapy ♥ *(Phase III)*
45 hrs Lecture/15 hrs Lab (3.5 credits)

In accordance with FL 64B1, this course will teach the students the theoretical principles and use of acupoint injection therapy (AIT). It covers history, differential diagnosis, precautions and contraindications, laws and rules, and the proper administration and equipment needed in acupoint injection therapy. The course will review of anatomy and referral zones, universal precautions including management of blood-borne pathogens and biohazardous waste, and procedures for injections, including preparing the injectables, contraindications, and precautions. The course will combine acupuncture theory and homeopathy as well as clinical practice, as required by the state.

OIM 305 Integrative Medicine Gynecology *(3rd year status)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course introduces gynecology from an East Asian medicine (EAM) perspective, integrating EAM theory with foundational biomedical concepts of women's reproductive health. Students examine common gynecological conditions including menstrual disorders, pelvic pain, fertility and infertility, pregnancy-related concerns, perimenopause and menopause, and benign reproductive conditions.

Emphasis is placed on pattern differentiation and evidence-informed treatment strategies using acupuncture, Chinese herbal medicine, dietary therapy, and lifestyle guidance. Safety considerations, hormonal influences, ethical practice, and collaboration with biomedical gynecology and reproductive health providers are addressed to support effective, patient-centered care across the female lifespan. This course will focus on gynecological disorders. The etiology, pathology, diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of each condition will be covered. Selection of acupuncture points and modified herbal formulas to meet the needs of the individual will be emphasized. 15 hours will be dedicated to Chinese herbal medicine.

WLI 301 Western Laboratory Testing and Imaging *(WDP 302)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course exposes the student to the use of laboratory tests and imaging findings in the practice of Chinese medicine. The ordering and use of lab tests and imaging studies as well as appropriate referrals, are stressed.

WPH 301 Pharmacology *(WAP 101, 102, WBC 101, WDP 301)*
45 hours (3 credits)

A survey of Western pharmacology. Emphasis is placed on classification, major actions, and side effects of commonly prescribed medications, and the effects of such medications on Chinese diagnosis and treatment.

OIM 307 Integrative Medicine Pediatrics *(3rd year status)*
30 hours (2 credits)

This course introduces pediatric care through the lens of East Asian medicine, with emphasis on the physiological and developmental differences between children and adults. Students examine common pediatric conditions, including respiratory and digestive disorders, immune and allergic conditions, sleep disturbances, emotional and behavioral concerns, and growth-related issues, alongside relevant biomedical concepts.

The course emphasizes pattern differentiation and age-appropriate,

evidence-informed treatment strategies using acupuncture, Shonishin and non-needle techniques, Chinese herbal medicine, dietary therapy, and lifestyle guidance. Selection of acupuncture points and modified herbal formulas to meet the needs of the individual will be emphasized. 15 hours will be dedicated to Chinese herbal medicine.

INT 311 Clinical Internship I ♥ *(SUP 212)*
120 hours (4 credits)

During this phase, students begin to treat patients without direct supervision. Supervisors are available for consultation and feedback. Intakes and treatment plans continue to be reviewed and approved by the supervisor.

SEMESTER 9

HER 305 Chinese Herbal Patent Medicines
30 hours (2credits)

This course provides instruction in the theory, composition, and clinical application of Chinese herbal patent medicines. Students study commonly used classical and modern patent formulas, integrating East Asian medicine pattern differentiation with relevant biomedical knowledge to support appropriate formula selection, dosage, and administration. Emphasis is placed on safety and professional practice, including contraindications, herb–drug interactions, regulatory and quality assurance considerations, ethical prescribing, patient education, and interprofessional communication to support competent, evidence-informed clinical use.

BDR 301 Board Review (Acupuncture)
30 hours (2 credits)

This course is designed as a comprehensive review for the NCCAOM board examination in Chinese medicine. This course will prepare students for the licensing exam by reviewing relevant material in Chinese medicine via NCCAOM material, practice tests, and coursework. Acupuncture point locations, indications, and Chinese medicine foundations will be covered.

BDR 303 Board Review (Foundations)
30 hours (2 credits)

This course is designed as a comprehensive review for the NCCAOM board examination in TCM Foundations. This course will prepare students for the licensing exam by reviewing relevant material in the Foundations of TCM via

NCCAOM material, practice tests, and coursework.

INT 312 Clinical Internship II ♥ *(Prereq: INT 311)*
180 hours (6 credits)

Interns continue practical experience in the clinic with a wide range of Chinese therapeutic modalities, including Chinese bodywork, at progressive levels of responsibility under indirect supervision by faculty members. Case findings and treatment progress notes are presented and discussed.

SEMESTER 10

INT 313 Clinical Internship III ♥ *(Prereq: INT 312)*
220 hours (7.33 credits)

Interns continue practical experience in the clinic with a wide range of Chinese therapeutic modalities, including Chinese bodywork, at progressive levels of responsibility under indirect supervision by faculty members. Case findings and treatment progress notes are presented and discussed.

LAW 201 Florida Laws and Rules
30 hours (2 credits)

Students will learn legal guidelines by which to practice acupuncture and the ethical, legal, and practical aspects of acupuncture practice as set forth in Florida Statutes Chapters 456 & 457.

WHR 101 Western Herbology
30 hours (2 credits)

In this course students will review the use of Western herbs within the Chinese medical model. Students will read and evaluate current scientific studies in Western herbal medicine. Discussion of relevant biological, physical, and chemical principles and terminology is included.

BDR 302 Board Review (Biomedicine)
30 hours (2 credits)

This course is designed as a comprehensive review for the NCCAOM board examination in biomedicine. This course will prepare students for the licensing exam by reviewing relevant material in biomedicine via NCCAOM material, practice tests, and coursework.

BDR 303 Board Review (Herbology)
30 hours (2 credits)

This course is designed as a comprehensive review for the NCCAOM board

examination in Chinese herbology. This course will prepare students for the licensing exam by reviewing relevant material in Chinese herbology via NCCAOM material, practice tests, and coursework.

WMR 301 Introduction to Medical Research
30 hours (2 credits)

Students learn techniques for examining medical research and develop working familiarity with the literature available in the field. Students learn to utilize diverse resources, including traditional reference works, published studies, personal communication, and Internet resources. Coursework focuses on developing a substantial research project to be archived in the school library.

ELECTIVES

CLP101: Cadaver Lab and Palpation *(Prereq: WAP101(registered))*
Not for credit

This elective course is the first in a series of weekend cadaver labs and palpation instruction. The cadaver lab coursework will involve dissection of sections of fresh cadavers to gain an in-depth understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the body, the structures involved in the meridians and collaterals of the body, as well as target tissues/structures for needling angle and depth. The coursework will be paired with palpatory practice on fellow students, reflecting the anatomy dissected in the cadaver lab portion. The first course in the series will focus on the upper limb.

CLP102: Cadaver Lab and Palpation *(Prereq: WAP101, WAP102 (registered))*
Not for credit

This elective course is the second in a series of weekend cadaver labs and palpation instruction. The cadaver lab coursework will involve dissection of sections of fresh cadavers to gain an in-depth understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the body, the structures involved in
the meridians and collaterals of the body, as well as target tissues/structures for needling angle and depth. The coursework will be paired with palpatory practice on fellow students, reflecting the anatomy dissected in the cadaver lab portion. The second course in the series will focus on the lower limb and pelvis.

CLP103: Cadaver Lab and Palpation *(Prereq: WAP102)*
Not for credit

This elective course is the third in a series of weekend cadaver labs and palpation instruction. The cadaver lab coursework will involve dissection of sections of fresh cadavers to gain an in-depth understanding of the anatomy and physiology

of the body, the structures involved in the meridians and collaterals of the body, as well as target tissues/structures for needling angle and depth. The coursework will be paired with palpatory practice on fellow students, reflecting the anatomy dissected in the cadaver lab portion. The third course in the series will focus on the torso, spine, face, head, and internal organs.

State Acupuncture Licensure Disclosure

State / Jurisdiction	License Required	National Certification or Exam	Herbal Medicine in Scope	DRCOM Determination
Alabama	No	N/A	N/A	**No Practice Act**
Alaska	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Arizona	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Arkansas	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
California	Yes	State exam (CALE)	Yes	**Does Not Meet**
Colorado	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Connecticut	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Delaware	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
District of Columbia	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Florida	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
Georgia	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Hawaii	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
Idaho	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Illinois	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Indiana	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Iowa	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Kansas	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	**No Determination Made**
Kentucky	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
Louisiana	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Maine	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Maryland	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Massachusetts	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Michigan	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Minnesota	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Mississippi	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Missouri	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Montana	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Nebraska	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
Nevada	Yes	Certification	Yes	**No Determination Made**
New Hampshire	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
New Jersey	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
New Mexico	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	**Does Not Meet**
New York	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
North Carolina	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets

North Dakota	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Ohio	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Oklahoma	No	N/A	N/A	**No Practice Act**
Oregon	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Pennsylvania	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Rhode Island	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
South Carolina	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
South Dakota	No	N/A	N/A	**No Practice Act**
Tennessee	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Texas	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
Utah	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Vermont	Yes	Certification	Yes	**No Determination Made**
Virginia	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Washington	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
West Virginia	Yes	Certification	Yes	Meets
Wisconsin	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets
Wyoming	Yes	Exams only[1]	Yes	Meets

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

2026-2027

Fall Semester 2026		
September	1	Fall Semester Begins
	7	Labor Day - Holiday (no classes)
	8	Add/Drop Deadline
November	11	Veterans Day - Holiday (no classes)
	23-27	Thanksgiving Break
December	1-3	Spring 2027 Registration
	18	Semester Ends
	19	Graduation Ceremony
DE Weekends: 9/19-9/20, 10/10-10/11, 11/14-11/15, 12/12-12/13		

Spring Semester 2027		
January	5	Spring Semester Begins
	12	Add/Drop Deadline
	18	Martin Luther King's Day - Holiday (no classes)
March	30-1	Summer 2027 Registration
April	16	Semester Ends
	17	Graduation Ceremony
DE Weekends: 1/23-1/24, 2/20-2/21, 3/20-3/21, 4/10-4/11		

Summer Semester 2027		
May	4	Summer Semester Begins
	11	Add/Drop Deadline
	31	Memorial Day - Holiday (no classes)
July	4-5	Independence Day - Holiday (no classes)
	27-29	Fall 2027 Registration
August	13	Semester Ends
	14	Graduation Ceremony
DE Weekends: 5/22-5/23, 6/12-6/13, 7/17-7/18, 8/7-8/8		
Dragon Rises College reserves the right to amend the calendar at any time as necessary.		